#### Sayegh questions make-up of aid panel

TUNIS (R) — A prominent Palestinian economist urged Palestine leader Yasser Arafat Saturday to reconsider the composition of an economic council set up last week to channel foreign aid to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Yousef Sayegh, noe of the council's 14 governors, said it was packed with Palestine Liberation Organisatinn (PLO) politicians and "unknown young men some of whom just graduated." Dr. Sayegh told Remers he would resign if the council was not reformed within two weeks. Mr. Arafat last week established the Economic Council for Development and Construction, which he was not reformed within two weeks. Mr. Ararai last week established the Economic Council for Development and Construction, which he will chair himself, the coordinate with international denors who have pledged \$2 billion to back the self-rule accord signed by Israel and the PLO. A Palestinian-Israeli committee will upon economic talks in PLO. A Palestman-Isracii committee will npen economic talks in Paris Monday, both sides said. "Economic arrangements are the basis for real peace in the area hence the importance of the talks in Paris." said Israel Finance Minister Avraham Shohal, who heads the Israeli delegation. "I think what we have to do in Paris basically is to prepare an agenda and time frame for the discussions," Samir Huleileh, an economist on the Palestinian team, told Reuters.

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#### israel speeds up West Bank digging

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OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Israel's antiquities department will send 16 teams of archaeologists to the occu-pied West Bank Sunday to affect up excavation work ahead of the implementation of Palestinian self-rule, Israel Radio reported Saturday. It said the researchers, who recently underwent special physical training to enable them to work in difficult areas, would head for sites in the Jordan Valley and the desert. Palestinian leaders have called for encient artefacts found by the Israelis in the occupied territories to be returned since Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed a limited autonomy accord for the West Bank town of Jericho and the Gaza Strip on Sept. 13.

#### **Terrorist threat** seen in Somalia

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MOGADISHU (AFP) — U.N. military officials warned Saturday that militants from an unspecified country had arrived here and could launch attacks on U.S. or other contingents of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Somalia. U.N. and U.S. forces were boosting security to protect against possible attacks, said U.N. military spokesman Ma-jor David Stockwell. "Analysis of intelligence reports has led us to believe that terrorist attacks on UNOSOM and/or U.S. forces are possible," Maj. Stockwell said in a statement. "This analysis reveals the prosence in Mogadisku of an unspecified number of individuals, possibly Hizbollah in car-bombing techniques," the statement said. U.S. officials have warned Somali warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed "that he will be considered responsible if such attacks occur." The statement said U.N. and U.S. forces "are taking appropriate measures to protect against possible

#### 200 detained in Algiers — radio

attacks."

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ALGIERS (AFP) — Security forces detained some 200 peo-ple Saturday during a sweep of the Beleourt district of Algiers, Algerian radio said. The sweep was launched before dawn around the area of the "Kabul" mosque, a stronghold of the extremist Muslim group knows as "Afghans" composed of veterans from the war in Afghanistan. The "Afghans" form the hardcore of the Islamic Armed Group which has claimed responsibility for seizing three French consular workers at the end of October (see page 2).

#### iraqi group says Shiltes flee to border

TEHRAN (AFP) — A group of Shiite refugees fleeing Iraqi army attacks in the south of the country have gathered near the Iranian border and are waiting to enter the country, an Iraqi opposition group said Satur-day. The army's "oppressive measures" have forced dozens of families to leave their homes in the southern marshlands of Iraq and move to the Hovar Al Hovezen region, the Iranbased Supreme-Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) said in a statement.

#### 30,000 displaced Sudanese to return

KHARTOUM (AFP) -Arrangements are currently under way to return some 30,000 southerners displaced by the civil war now in camps in the Sudanese capital back to the Pastoda area in south Sudan's Upper Nile state, the press reported here Saturday. The Al Engaz Al Watani daily quoted a Ministry of Peace and Rehabilitation official as saying that an ad hoc commit-toe, chaired by a ministry represontative comprising a representative of the indigenous luink tribe and representaives of local, foreign nongovernmental and religious organisations, will take charge of the arrangements.

# **Arafat condemns killing** of settler; clears way for resumed self-rule talks

tine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Saturday condemned the killing of a Jewish settler in the Israeli-occupied territories, and appealed for an end to acts of violence.

"We renounce and condemn the killing of Israeli settler (Haim) Mizrahi," Mr. Arafat was quoted as saying by the official Palestinian news agency WAFA.

It was the first time Mr. Arafat condemned a specific attack by Palestinians in Israel or the occupied territories.

Mizrahi was stabled to death on Oct. 29 while buying eggs at a farm near the West Bank settlement of Beit El. Israeli authorities said Friday that five youths from Ramallah had confessed to the slaying.

Mr. Arafat said the attack was carried out by an individual linked to the PLO "without orders of the leadership" and appealed for an end to all violence.

"We ask all the parties to oblige with the agreement and to put an end to all acts of violence for the preservation of pence," he said. The statement added that

the PLO leadership would take

appropriate measures.

The stabbing was the first attack by men linked to the PLO organisation since it signed a peace agreement with Israel on Sept. 13.

On Friday, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Mr. Arafat promised to con-

Israel as well that he had ordered followers to refrain from violence.

· U.S. President Bill Clinton praised Mr. Arafat's declara-

"I think it's a very positive sign," Mr. Clinton said. "I've only received limited reports morning but from what I've heard it's a very positive sign. It's the sort of thing that will enable them to work together and to implement the

Asked whether the United States made any direct attempt to persuade Mr. Arafat to condemn the attack, Mr. Clinton said, "we had no direct contacts, the White House did not, but we made it very clear what our position was. Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin said Mr. Arafat's condemnation of violence made it possible for Israel-PLO talks to resume, Israel Radio reported. Israel Radio said Arafat's renunciation of violence came

after all-night telephone con-

tacts between senior Rabin

aldes in New York and PLO

leaders in Tunis. Mr. Rabin is towing the United States. Several hours after Mr. Arafat's statement, Rabin issued his own, saying Israel would not play into hands of Palestipian extremits who want to derail the peace talks, the radio said.

Now that Mr. Arafat has publicly denounced violence, the peace talks should conMr. Rahin's statement,

A senior Israeli government official said Israel-PLO talks on Palestinian autonomy would resume, probably Mon-day, in Cairo, and later in the week be moved to the Egyptian resort of Taha,

At issue is the implementation of the Sept. 13 agreement on Palestinian autonomy and Israeli troop withdrawal, which is to begin hy April 13 in the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. negotiations must be wrapped up by Dec. 13.

Negotiations broke down after four roonds when the Palestinians walked out, saying Israel plans not withdrawal but redeployment of its troops. The Israelis said their original offer, in which their troops would still be allowed nuhindered access to many of Gaza's roads despite the withdrawal, was not an ultimatum but was

Egyptian mediation persuaded the two parties to return to the bargaining table, but this time in secret to avoid claimed press intrusions in the negotiating process. The two sides agreed to form a smaller committee to discuss obstacles to further talks.

The date for the original Taba committee to resume its meetings has not been divulged. The governmentowned Egyptian newspaper Al Gomhuria said Saturday the talks will resume in Taba next week after the two sides settle their disputes in Cairo.

# Jordan celebrates King's birthday

today celehrates the 58th birthday of His Majesty King

Hussein.
The King was brought up under the care of the late King Abdullah Ben Al Husking Addulan Ben Al Hus-sein, his grandfather and founder of the Kingdom, and his parents, King Talal, who passed away in 1972 and Queen Zein, the Queen

King Hussein underwent elementary education in Jor-dan before moving to Alex-andria, Egypt, and later to Harrow School and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst

He acceded to the throne on Aug. 11, 1952, and assumed constitutional powers the following year when he became 19.

Celebrations

Jordan is celebrating the King's birthday by holding seminars, exhibitions and several cultural and educational activities and competi-

In Amman, the Civil Avia tion Authority will celebrate the event by inaugurating a health centre and a business centre at Queen Alia International Airport.

In Ramtha, the University of Jordan for Science and Technology (JUST) is orga-nising a special programme that would include several cultural and educational acti-

In Karak, the Karak Centre for Rehabilitation is organising a one-week festivity that includes seminars on the

It will also include visits to the Ministry of Education schools as well as some trips to the tonristic and

In Irbid, there will be a comprehensive programme that includes seminars, exhibitions, and cultural activi-

The Ministry of Telecommunications issued commemorative stamps entitled '40th anniversary on His Majesty's assumption of his constitutional powers."



# Crown Prince urges focus on refugees

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday said that the Jordanian negotiators to the Arab-Israeli peace talks should concentrate on and reaffirm the rights of the Palestiman refugees in all aspects.

Speaking during a meeting at the Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Al Anani, Prince Hassan reviewed in detail Jordan's stand with regard to the issue

of Palestine refugees and other aspects of the Arab-Israeli con-Prince Hassan urged the government to articulate Jor-

dan's perceptions of a comprehensive and just peace and comprehensive security. He said that Jordanian delegates to the peace talks should insist that all countries and all peoples of the region should be treated equally.

Referring to coordination with the other Arah parties to the negotiations the Prince stressed the need to crystallise Jordanian formulas aimed at promoting such coordination in order to arrive at a just and comprehensive settlement.

In reviewing with the prime minister several regional pan-Arab and international issues. the Crown Prince urged the government to define a number of concepts related to the peace process and other relevant issues; including a clear Jordanian plan for the coming stage of the peace negotiations

that aim at a durable settle-The Crown Prince emphasised that human resources de-

velopment should take into consideration human rights and all the natural rights of people, including the right to develop resources in a manner that would help in the establishment of real peace.

As long as people do not feel tangible benefits of peace, that peace would soon lose its content and its ability to snrvive,

## Al Ahd seeks to form centrist coalition

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The formation of the first parliamentary coalition is in the making less than a week after election results were announced. according to Abdul Hadi Al Majali, secretary general of the Al Ahd party.
"We began consultations on a coalition last night and

will have decided on the members of the coalition by the end of the week," Mr. Majali said Saturday refusing to reveal either names or number of the coalition mem-

The coalition is expected to

be called the National Action Front (NAF). Mr. Majali however, refused to confirm the coalition name keeping most of the information about the parliamentary bloc shrouded in secrecy.

Sources close to Al Ahd, however, expect the coalition to group as many as 16 cen-trist and right-of-centre de-

Running as independents, four known Al Ahd members won scats last Monday in four different electoral districts without declaring themselves as party candidates. They were Ahmad Qudah of

(Continued on page 5)

# Arafat tactics fuel discontent among proponents of accord

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

The crisis, triggered by what critics see as PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's

one PLO official.

legal committees to chart ont negotiating strategies and

The memorandum has been endorsed by the Palestine People's Party (PPP), a number of independents and even several well-placed Fatch officials who are hoping to create public pressure on Mr. Arafat to change his

According to PLO offi-cials, Mr. Arafat has sought to exclude his closest aides, including the architect of

autnnnmy accnrd in Washington, Mr. Arafat is said to have taken unilateral decisions and made appointments without consulting his colleagues or experts.

to exclude any potential riv-als, from within Fatch in particular, from assuming a key role to ensure that he will perts formulate plans for the formation of a Palestine National Authority (PNA) and an economie and develupment council in a way that reconcile between professional and political exper-

He also appeared to accept that the composition of the negotiating teams should be based on professional exper-tise. In fact Palestinian politicians and experts had reportedly worked for at least two weeks writing out detailed definitions and descriptions and terms of reference for political and technical

But Mr. Arafat kept on procrastinating the actual process of discussing the appointments and strategies until the very last moment when he practically handpicked the negotiating team to the Taba talks — reducing all written plans and advice to

In retrospect, Mr. Arafat seemed to have gone along with his colleagues only to ensure their support and ratification of the Oslo accord at the Palestine Central Conncil (PCC) last month in Tunis. The memorandum being

distributed to gather signa-tures reminded Mr. Arafat that the PCC ratification was

(Continued on page 3)

# Syria hits U.S. aid pledge for Israel

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian state radio Saturday accused the United States of "favouritism" towards Israel, and condemned U.S. President Bill Clinton's pledge to main-tain Israel's military edge over its neighbours.

The radio said Syria had already "suffered from the partial relations" between the United States and Israel, and asked: "Is it reasonable for Washington to satisfy Israel's requests for military and economic assistance ... just to please Tel Aviv?"

Following talks with Israeh Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington Friday Mr. Clinton said he had "renewed America's unshakeable pledge to maintain and enhance Israel's qualitative security He also reaffirmed his com-

mitment to work with Congress to maintain Israeli aid at its current levels (see page 2). Syrian radio said Mr. Rabin was "demanding a price for a

peace which has not yet been established," and it was "incomprehensible that the United States is giving in to Rahin's demands, including

those contradicting the U.S. conception of peace. Syria has demanded a pledge from Israel that it will withdraw completely from the Golan Heights, while Israel wants a commitment from Syria for "total peace" with open borders and diplomatic ties before debating the scope of a withdrawal from the

Syrian Information Minister Mohammad Salman said Saturday the U.S. administration was "serious in its search for peace" and could "pressure Israel into implementing international resolutions."

Mr. Salman, quoted by the official news agency SANA, said Israel was trying to reach separate agreements "opposed to the U.S. initiative based on U.N. Security Council resolu-tions 242 and 338." "Peace does not need soph-

isticated weapons but rather truthful will and persistent effort to make peace a reality," the state-run Tishrin daily said-Tishrin complained that Israel was unfairly getting all the rewards for its peace efforts, while Syria was getting

**ALL BRANCHES** OF THE



# ARAB BANK

Present their best wishes

HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN

On his birthday

and wish him many happy returns of the day

## Anani calls on parties to learn from election results

By a Jordan Times Reporter AMMAN - Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Anani Satur-day called on political parties to evaluate their results in last week's elections instead of blaming the government for their failure.

Dr. Anani was reacting to statement issued Saturday by five leftist parties accusing the government of being behind their poor showing in last Monday's elections. "The current situation re-

quires one to study the results and learn and benefit from his mistakes and evaluate the siogans that he put forth and the degree of his credibility among the people," Dr. Anani told the Jordan Times.

"In a joint statement, five leftist political parties accused the government of planning and working to produce a parliament that would serve the purposes of the (current) stage while keeping an appearance of formal democracy."

The statement was signed by the Jordanian Ba'ath Arah Socialist Party, the Jordan Communist Party, the Jordan People's Democratic Party (Hashd), the Jordan Socialist Democratic Party and the Jordan Democratic Popular Unity Party.

The five parties had fielded Kingdom's 20 districts. Only two candidates, Bassam Had-dadin of the Jordan People's Democratic Party and Khalil Ba'ath Arab Socialist Party, made it to Parliament. Bassam Haddadin won the

Christian seat in the district of Zarga and Khalil Haddadin the Christian seat in Amman's Third District.

"Democracy is a joint responsibility which reflects the people's opinion and its position on current issues and political parties bear an equal responsibility to that of the official bodies to take this experiment to the highest levels of maturity," Dr. Ana-

In the meantime, the Associated Press qnoted residents of northern Mazar village as saying that on Wednesday police forcibly dispersed hundreds of demonstrators who protested alleged irregularities in the Nov. 8 elections, resulting in the injury of 70 people and the detention of about 200.

The AP quoted Minister of Information Ma'an Abu Nowar as denying the report and said: "I can assure you that nothing of such nature took place in Mazar.

# critics by agreeing to sugges-tions that politicians and ex-

By Lamis K. Andoni

AMMAN - An internal crisis within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is undermining efforts to chart a negotiating strategy to implement the Israel-PLO autonomy accord and undermining the unity of supporters of the landmark agreement signed on Sept. 13.

singlehanded approach to negotiations with Israel, has gained serious momentum over the last two weeks as disgrantled officials and negotiators have sought to huild up support for organisa-

Mr. Arafat has so far ignored calls by his colleagues to introduce organi-sational and political reforms, primpting some Palestinian negotiators and experts to consider withdrawing altogether from talks with Israel over implementation of

the autonomy accord.

The accord itself is loaded with landmines. If we fail to put our act together it will explode in our face," said

A memorandum circulated this week in Amman and the Israeli-occupied territories by Palestinian officials and negotiators demanded immediate reforms and setting lead the transition to Palestinian antonomy.

peace talks with Israel, Mahmond Ahhas (Ahn Mazen), from the decisionmaking process. Since the signing of the

Mr. Arafat's decisions have aimed mainly at asserting his leadership and preempting others from assuming any position of prominence and significance. In the view of many PLO officials, Mr. Arafat is trying

have the upper hand in the future entity. Initially, however, Mr. Arafar tried to appease his

Happy Birthday Your Majesty and many, many returns

Eng. Sabri Farah and family

# U.N. lists three options for its Somalia force

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Secretary-General Bontros Ghali is proposing three options for the troubled U.N. operation in Somalia, ranging from retaining its present mandate more or less intact to securing only ports and airports to keep supply routes

According to a summary of a report to the Security Council being issued on Monday, he flatly rejects the possibility of a complete withdrawal from the country, now recovering from the ravages of famine and civil

The U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) comprises more than 29,000 troops. But a review is necessary be-cause the United States, which has some 7,500 personnel on shore and more than 8,000 aboard ships, is withdrawing all but a few hundred logistics troops by March 31.

Belginm, France and Sweden, which together provide about 2,500 troops, have announced their intention to pull out even sooner and other

countries may well follow suit. Under a middle option, UN-OSOM would comprise some 16,000 troops plus about 2,500 logistics personnel, while the minimal third option would require a force of only about 5,000.

Which of the three options the Security council chooses will largely depend on the availability of troops and resources and the degree of cooperation from local Somali

UNOSOM has soffered dozens of casualties in recent months in clashes with followers of warlord General Mohammad Farah Aideed, though it has ahandoned efforts to hunt him down and is concentrating on political reconciliation

Dr. Ghali says the council does not have to make an immediate decision which option to choose but should consider the possibilities as the

situation develops. He says he has written to 42 U.N. members inviting them to provide troops and logistics support or to increase their existing contributions.

Meanwhile, he recommends renewing the existing mandate, which expires next Thursday, until March 31.

But UNOSOM would not use coercive measures to ensure a secure environment. which is lacking mainly in south Mogadishu, General Aideed's stronghold. The U.N. force would try to initiate a political dialogue with all factions, including Gen. Aideed's United Somali ongress/Somali National

Rejecting any notion of a complete U.N. withdrawal, Dr. Ghali says: "The international community must not abandon Somalia in view of the incontrovertible desire of the Somali people for continued presence of UNOSOM in their

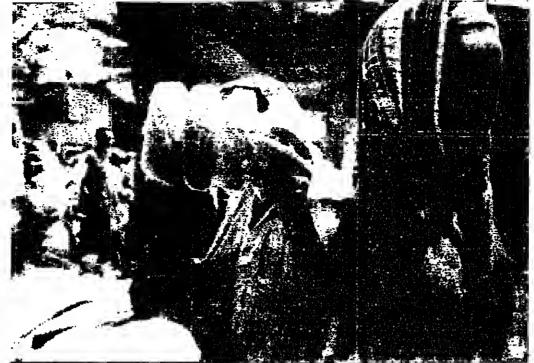
If the present mandate remained essentially unchanged, UNOSOM would not resort to coercive measures to enforce the disarmament of factions in south Mogadishu, but would "retain the necessary capabil-ity for coercive disarmament,"

should that prove necessary. Under the second option, envisaging a strength of some 16,000 and a 2,500-member logistics command, the troops withdrawing by next March 31

would not have to be replaced. UNOSOM would use force only in self-defence and disarmament of Somali factions

would be entirely voluntary. The emphasis would be on keeping main supply routes open, ensuring the nnimpeded flow of humanitarian aid, rehabilitation of the country's shattered infrastructure, repatriation of refugees and political reconciliation.

Under the minimal third option, requiring some 5.000 troops, UNOSOM would be limited to securing the airports



People walk in the street of the Somali town of Baidon, as life is coming back to normal (AFP

and ports in Mogadishn and other parts of the country. The U.N. force would assist U.N. agencies and nongovernmental organisation in delivering aid and carrying out development projects.

This option presupposes that the local authorities would be prepared to cooperate with UNOSOM and would provide secure environment.

An Italian officer was killed in Somalia on Friday, the seventh from that country to die in the peacekeeping opera-tions there, the Italian Defence Ministry reported.

Sergeant Major Vincenzo Li ausi and another officer were driving in a military vehicle near the town of Balad when a group of Somalis opened fire, apparently in a bid to seize an Italian civilian vehicle that was following, the ministry said late Friday.

The two soldiers returned fire. Li Causi, who was 41 and

the father of two children, died shortly afterward from a single bullet injury.

#### Pentagon to seek \$300m

The Pentagon plans to ask. Congress for a supplemental appropriation of at least \$300 million for U.S. military operations in Somalia through March 31, a senior defence official said.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the request would be to pay for American forces in Somalia from last month until the end

"My guess is it (the request) is going to be in December or January," said the official of funds for the controversial presence of thousands of U.S. troops and equipment aiding in the humanitarian effort in

If Congress does not

quest - similar to an \$800 million appropriation it approved earlier for costs in Somalia - then the money will have to be paid out of regular Defence Department operations funds.

The official, who was discussing the 1994 defence budget with reporters, refused to pre-dict how Congress might react to the request.

But he said appropriations committees in the House of Representatives and Senate are worried about the readiness of the U.S. military force as the defence hudget is being cut and would probably be sympathetic to the supplemental request for additionel funds.

We're at the stage now where we need a sup-plemental," the official said, adding, "I think there is genuine, palpahle concern for the readiness of the forces." The money is above and beyond the \$261 billion 1994 defence budget passed by Congress Wednesday and signed by President Clinton Thursday. That budget, covering the 12 months from Oct. 1. earmarks no money for Somalia.

In the past the Pentagon has paid for contingencies like Somalia by taking money from a budget account known as operations and maintenance fonds for thing like operating vessels at sea, training tank crews and other activities designed to keep the forces ready to fight. It sometimes recouned the money by getting Congress to pass a supplemental budget

Because the U.S. military in recent years has become involved in a much greater number of global operations, including humanitarian and peacekeeping missions, Defence Secretary Les Aspin asked Congress to create a separate account in the defence budget to pay for such activities. That way the funds for maintaining the forces' war-fighting readiness would

war-ngning readiness would not be jeopardized. Fighting hetween U.N. troops and Aideed partisans has killed more than 70 foreign soldiers 'and hundreds of Somalis since June. The worst clashes occurred in early October when U.S.-led troops tried to arrest Gen. Aideed, who is blamed for the deaths of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers on

Dr. Ghali said that since the fighting in October the situation has been generally quiet. But he warned: "Mogadishu remains tense. In the capital and elsewhere, major factions are rearming, apparently in anticipation of a possible re-. turn to widespread fighting sometime in 1994."

As a result, he stressed, "the international community must not abandon Somalia in view of the incontrovertible desire of the Somali, people for the continued presence of UN-OSOM in their country."

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### U.S. urges release of reporters in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States called Friday for release of two reporters held by fighters for Afghan Prime minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami faction. Terence White of Agence France-Press and John Jennings of the U.S.-based Associated Press were detained white covering combat between the Hezb-e-Islami and President Burhamad din Rabbani's militia on Monday. "Both are reportedly unharmed and in good health. Despite assurances by Hek-matyar's organisation that Jennings and White would be quickly released, they are still being held," said State Department spokesman Mike McCurry. "The United States government is concerned about this situation. We have contacted the Afghan embassy here in Washington and are following np." he said. "We will obviously continue to monitor the situation very, very closely," he added. The Vienna-based International Press Institute (IPI) also called Friday for the release of the two wire service journalists. The detention of the pair "was a clear violation of the rights of journalists to seek, receive and impart information," the IPI

#### Yugoslav president receives Libyan envoy

BELGRADE (AFP) — Federal Yugoslav President Zorac Lilic on Friday met here with a special envoy from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the Tanjug news agency reported. The agency, citing a statement from the president's office, said Mr. Lilic and Ali Abdul Salem Triki discussed United Nations sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia for its involvement in the Bosnian fighting and agreed that such measures did not contribute to the solution of international problems. Libya too is under U.N. sanctions, which were tightened Thursday, on grounds that it has refused to hand over two suspects in the 1988 Lockerbie airliner bombing for trial in either Britain or the United States. The talks here also dealt with peace efforts under way in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosma-Herzegovina, according to Tanjug. Libya is one of the few Arah states that has maintained good relations with rump Yugoslavia, now reduced to Serbia and Montenegro, since the ontbreak of fighting between Bosnian Serbs, Muslims and Croats in April 1992.

#### U.S. navy in war games with Britain, France

MANAMA (R) - The United States, Britain and France are holding joint naval war games in the Gulf, a U.S. naval forces central command statement said Saturday. It said the U.S. Navy ship USS Nicholson, the British HMS Cornwall and HMS Campbeltown and the French La Motte' Picquet were taking part in the four-day Gulfex XXI exercises which started on Nov. 12. The statement did not say where in the "Arabian Gulf' the exercises were taking place. It said British Royal Air Force Tornado jet aircrafts would also participate in the air defence exercises. "Gulfex XXI was designed to sharpen the three navies' ability to work together in support of peace in the region." Vice-Admiral Douglas Katz, the U.S. Navy's top officer in the Middle East, said. "This is just a part of a very active exercise programme we conduct — predominantely with the Gulf Cooperation Council militaries — but also with other Western navies," he added.

#### Light quake rattles Lebanon

BEIRUT (AFP) - A mild earthquake shook Lebanon late Friday but there were no reports of casualties or serious damage, radio stations reported. The instensity of the tremos, which occurred at 10:25 p.m. (2025 GMT) was not known but the control of the con radio stations said that windows shattered in some houses although no other serious damage was reported.

### Venezuela to return envoy to Iraq

BAGHDAD (AFP) --- Venezuela has sent an ambassador back to Baghdad, becoming the first Western nation to take such a step since the 1991 Gulf war. Ambassador Ernesto. Velasco Rojas told that he plans to present his credentials. within the next week to the Iraqi authorities. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher last month complained about the move to his Venezuelan counterpart, General Fernando Ochoa Antich, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the ambassador said. A Kuwaiti official also complained about the move in Caracas, he added. The 71-year-old diplomat, whose country is the third largest producer in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), said "my mission will be 95 per cent petrol, five per cent politics."

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### Snake's 'kiss of death' kills villager

CAIRO (AP) - A villager who attempted to imitate traditional Egyptian snakehandlers by putting the head of a snake in his mouth died instantly when the reptile bit him, a newspaper reported Saturday. Nazih Mohammad Abu Al Gheit was in Desouq, a town in the Nile Delta 220 kilometres northeast of Cairo, to visit a famous mosque where a Muslim saint is interred, the newspaper Al Messa wrote. Abu Al Gheit was sidetracked by street entertainers performing with live snakes. Sneaking among the onlookers, he picked up a snake and tried to put it in his mouth. It hit him twice, on the lip and tongue. Villagers often visit mosques containing tombs of saints to seek their blessing.

### Kohi's aide called to testify

BERLIN (AP) — A court has asked Chancellor Helmut Kohl's intelligence director to testify about his recent talks with Iran's secret police chief. Bernd Schmidbauer was asked to testify at the trial of four Lebanese men and Iranian secret agent Kazemn Badabi. It was not immediately clear when the government official would testify. The men are on trial for the Sept. 17, 1992, attack that killed four Iranian dissidents. The most prominent victim was Sadiq Sharafkindi, the head of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran. After meeting Iran's secret police chief, Ali Fallahian, in Bonn last mouth, Mr. Schmidbauer said the evidence may exonerate Iran in the quadruple murder.

# French court indicts 3 FIS allies

PARIS (Agencies) — Three Algerians close to Algeria's banned fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) were in-dicted bere early Saturday by a French Judge, court sources reported.

Moussa Kraouche, 34, Abdul Haq Boujaadar, 32, and Lardi Beddiat were charged with criminal association in connection with "terrorist" activities by investigating Judge Roger le Loire. The three were among 88

suspected Algerian fundamentalists detained around the country on Tuesday in an apparent reprisal for Muslim fundamentalist threats against French nationals in Algeria. Mr. Kraouche, who was de-

tained in a Paris suburb and remains in custody, is a spokesman for the Algerian Brotherhood in France, considered a front for FIS.

He is accused of having been "a special contact for Rabah " head of the oversees branch of FIS and currently a refugee in Germany.

Mr. Kraouche allegedly received 'political and religious instructions" from Mr. Kebir. At his home near here, investigators said they found a copy of a letter in which the Armed Islamic Group (GlA) claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of three French consular officials in Algeria on Oct. 24. The trio were freed a week

Mr. Kraouche was also reported to have been in possession of a copy of a letter from one of the hostages, Michelle Thevenot, given to her by her captors and threatening the lives of French nationals in

JORDAN TELEVISION

Algeria.
In addition, investigators searching Mr. Kraouche's resistant from dence found a statement from the Supreme Council of the Islamic Armed Forces, which was sent to AFP on Monday.

Potential bomb-making components were discovered in the home of Mr. Boulaadar wbo was apprehended in the central French city of Orleans and who is still in custody, according to police.

Mr. Beddiaf, the third de-

fendant, was alleged to have been in possession at his residence outside Paris of two rifles, a hunting weapon and a silencer, as well as an instruction booklet on handling ex-

Mr. Beddiaf surrendered "spontaneously" to police here on Friday and was allowed to remain at liberty under court supervision.

Jacques Verges, a lawyer for the three accused, insisted that the charges were "political and will not stick."

Of the documents allegedly found on Mr. Kraouche, he said: "As an official of his association, he is interested in these problems (in Algeria) and receives all sorts of communiques. He is implicitly ac-

cused of having links to Rabah Kebir As for Mr. Boujaadar, Mr. Verges insisted that the components reportedly found in his home "were not going to be used to make detonators hut were for switches and lots of.

other things. Tuesday's crackdown, which led to the expulsion to Turkey a day later of fundamentalist preacher Hussein Konus, 59,

Church of the Annunciation Tel

was justified in order to crush militant groups in France thought to have links with the Islamic Salvation Front. according to Interior Minister Charles Pasqua. Mr. Pasqua said Wednesday

that while the FIS does not operate directly in France, leanings do." stressing that the country could not allow these groups to function under the cover of cultural organisations. The Algerian Brotherhood

was registered with French police in January 1991 as an organisation strengthening 'cultural links between Algerians and immigrants.

But last June authorities hanned two of its publications because of their "violently anti-Western and anti-French language.

The group denies links to the FIS, but was known to have encouraged Algerians in France to vote for the movement in general elections in December 1991.

The Algerian army stepped in to cancel the second round of elections the following month, which Islamic fundamentalist candidates appeared destined to win. sparking a guerrilla war with supporters of the FIS.

### Moroccan imam expelled

On Friday, French authorities expelled a Moroccan imam, the second Muslim cleric to be deported this week as the government cracked down on Islamic extremists.

Mohammad Lilouia, one of two imams of the mosque in Carpentras, 500 kilometres southeast of Paris, was put on a

**USEFUL TELEPHONE** 

NUMBERS

ship headed for Morocco on Thursday night, police said. .
The Vaucluse regional prefecture in May refused to re-new Sheikh Lilouia's residence permit because of "disturbance of public order as a result of his

activities," according to the imam's lawyer, Michel Raubaud. Mr. Raubaud did not elaborate on what activities Sheikh Lilouia had engaged in. The cleric had been living in France

for the past six years. On Wednesday, French au-thorities invoked a little-used procedure of "absolute urgency" to immediately expel Muslim cleric Hussevin Konus, 59. to his native Turkey, the in-

terior ministry said. The government hased the measure on "anti-French declarations" made by Sheikh Konus, who was practicing in Nantua, in soutbeast France. On Nov. 6 he said that "the law of Allah must be followed

before French law." The statement was made in support of four Muslim girls suspended from their Nantua school for refusing to remove traditional Muslim head scarves in the classroom. The mosque where he preached is said to be a gathering point for Muslim radicals.

Police in uniform or plainclothes on Friday were posted outside several mosques in northeastern Paris that are heavily populated by Muslims.

The objective was to "watch for eventual reactions by the Islamic Salvation Front, or of its movement, and to see if any leaflets would be handed out." said an officer speaking on condition of anonymity.

# Clinton may overrule prosecutors on Pollard

WASHINGTON (AP) -President Bill Clinton left open the possibility Friday of freeing convicted spy Jonathan Pollard even if the Justice Department recommends against commut-Mr. Pollard's life sentence for passing secrets to Israel. Mr. Clinton made clear in

comments to reporters follow-

ing a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that the decision on a pardon was his alone, though under U.S. government procedures he must await the Justice Department's advice. Mr. Pollard, a former civilian navy intelligence analyst,

pleaded guilty in 1986 to conspiracy to commit espionage. He admitted passing thousands of pages of highly sensitive documents after being recruited by Israel as a spy in Mr. Rahin had asked the president to commute the life

sentence and raised the issue during their meeting. Mr. Clinton said.
"I explained that under our procedure here, I cannot make a decision on the Pollard case

until the Justice Department makes a recommendation to me." Mr. Clinton said when the two leaders met reporters after their meeting.

"Under the U.S. constitution. I do not have to follow the recommendation of the Justice Department, but under our procedure I have to get one. When I get one, which won't be too long in the future, I will then review it and make a

# decision," Mr. Clinton said. Mr. Pollard, 39, has served

eight years in prison and is engible in 1996 to be considered for parole. The U.S. attorney's office

Pollard, bas already recommended against granting executive clemency, according to a federal law enforcement source who spoke on condition of anonymity. Veteran law enforcement officials, also speaking anony-

mously, predict that the Justice Department is unlikely to recommend that Mr. Pollard's sentence be commuted. But some of Mr. Pollard's supporters, including his attorney Theodore B. Olson, said

president's statement Friday. "I am encouraged he is acknowledging that he can render whatever decision he wants irrespective of what recommendation he may get from the Department of Justice," Mr.

they were encouraged by the

Others also said they found Mr. Clinton's statement to be encouraging.
"I find that statement to be

Olson said.

positive because it means that Clinton will make up his own mind and I have faith in Clinton's judgment." said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress.

Mr. Poliard's supporters argue that he received a far harsher sentence than other people who spied for allied

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

897467

ZAROA:

Tel: 773111-19 .. Feature Film: "Une Partie 771331. 775261. ..... Fenetre Sur News in Hebrew ... News in Arabic ... News in Arabic ou Bet Your Life 20:00 20:30 21:10 Thirtysomething News in English 22:20 23:10 \_ . The Golden Palace **PRAYER TIMES** 

CHURCHES Assemblies of God Church, Tcl. eph Church Tel. 624590. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terranancia Church Tel: 622366

Church Tel. 630851. Tel. n Catholic Church Tel. an Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Assume International Church Tel. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328. German-speaking Evangellesi Congregation Tel: 684195
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Names Tel. 654932 ch of Nazarene Tel.675691.

### WEATHER

lictin supplied by the Department of

ate. In Aqaba, winds will be no moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. 6 / 15 12 / 25 5 / 18 Yesterday's high temperatures: Ammon 12, Aqube 23, Humidity readings: Ammon 48 per cent, Aqube 45 per

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EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..

Civil Defence Department . Civil Defence Immediate Rescue — 630341
Civil Defence Emergency — 199
Rescue Police — 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade — 891228 Highway Police Traffic Police ... 896390 . 630321 Public Security Department Hotel Complaints Price Complaints 605800

Complaints
Telephone Information 010230 Central Amman Telephone Water Authority Jordan Electricity Company .....
RJ Flight Inform

en Alia Inti. Airport..... 08-53200

### HOSPITARS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6 Aldileh Maternity, J. Amn 64241/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas, J. Amman . 636140 University Hospital

Al-Mussher Hospital

The Islamic, Abdali

Al-Ahli, Abdali

Italian, Al-Muhajreen

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich .. 845849 667227/9 666127/37 777101/3 Army. Marka ..... 891611/15 en Alia Hospital ...... Amai Hospital

Zarqa Govi. Hospital ... (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital .. (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital ... (09)986732 Al Hilma Modern Hospital ... (09) 990990 IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital ... Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafces Hospital .... (02)275555 (02)247100 Princess Haya Hospital .... (03)314111

#### FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

AIRPORT This information is supplied by Roya Jordanian (RJ) information deput-ment at the Queen Alia Internationa Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where should always be verified. **ARRIVALS** Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flight (Terminai 1)

INTERNATIONAL

New York, Amst 17:55 14:44 18:35

## Other Flights (Terminal 2) ..... Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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|     | 17-00 | AMSTERDAM, NEW LOCK |
|     | 12300 | Athens              |
|     | 12:45 | Cairo               |
| 7   | 20:00 | Riyadh              |
|     | 20:36 | Jeddah              |
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...... 8:00 a.m. every Monday ...... 5:00 p.m. every Monday ...... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday ...... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. ಶ್ವವಹಾದ ಪ್ರಶಾಸ್ತ್ರವಾಗಿ 150 / 100 280/ 200 240 / 160 150 / 100 300 / 206 280 / 200 950 / 600 Grapes ...... Grape Fruit 550400 180/120 400/ 300 200 / 100 Marrow (large) Marrow (small) 22.22 450 / 300 360/240 280 / 200 180 / 120 220 / 160 Pepper (bot) ... Pepper (sweet) 390/ 300 380/ 300 200/ 100

HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

# **Home News**

# Alghanian Mirai promoted to general

AMMAN (J.T.) - A Royal Decree was issued Saturday promoting the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Abdul Hafez Mirai Kaabneh from Lieutenant General to the rank of General.

General Mirai obtained an M.Sc.in military science from the Royal College of Defence Studies in England.

He is also a graduate of the Royal Military Academy in



He had served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelli-

In 1962, he was awarded the Medal of Gallantry, Jor-dan's highest decoration for heroism in hattle.

Prior to his appointment as joint chiefs chairman, Gen. Mirai was a member of the Jordanian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks.



# Report cites 13 home demolitions, 13 killings by Israeli forces

AMMAN (Petra) - The sraeli occupation authorities ast month demolished 13 Arah nomes in the Gaza Strip using ockets in what they claim was search for armed men resistng the occupation, said a nonthly report issued hy the Department of Palestinian Affairs at the Foreign Minis-

In October, Israeli troops that and killed 13 Arabs, thus aising to 1,528 the number of Arabs killed by Israeli forces ince the start of the intifada in December 1987, added the reort released Saturday.

Perhaps the worst events in he occupied Arab lands, the eport noted, were the recur-ent attacks by Jewish settlers on Arabs and their property. Noting that most of the ittacks occurred in the vicini-

.: 1.752

Zeit and nearby villages, the report said that the settlers burned and destroyed homes and cars in the wake of the kidnapping of one settler from Beit Eel near Ramallah.

All these attacks, said the report, were carried ont under the eyes of and through encouragement by the Israeli armed forces.

The report quoted Saeb Erekat, deputy head of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, as saying that in view of the continued attracks there was need for U.N. forces to provide protection to the Palestinian popula-

It said that continued atrocities on the part of the Jewish settlers were bound to undermine the entire peace process.

Referring to Jerusalem, the report said that a decision was taken by the Israeli government to set up a new Jewish settlement at the Ras Al Amoud district in Arah Jerusalem on 13.5 dunums of expropriated Arah land.

It cited a recent statement by the Israeli housing minister who said that 13,000 homes for the Jewish settlers would be set up on the outskirts of the Holy

To build the settlements and expand the existing ones, said the report, the Israelis have so far seized 3,082,010 dunums in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. So far, it added, 186 Jewish settlements have mushroomed in the West Bank and 20 have been established in the Gaza Strip.



enior citizens gather at a public square in Salt (Staff photo hy Ayusley Floyd)

# **Experts to find ways to care for** growing senior citizen population

AMMAN (Petra) — Improved and advanced health care has ncreased the senior citizen population, which means that urther efforts are needed to neet the needs of the Kingiom's elderly, Health Ministry Secretary General Mahmoud

Al Shahed said here Saturday. Dr. Shahed told the opening ession of a three-day regional neeting on improving the realth of and ways of caring for he elderly that the senior itizens had paved the way for he future generations and herefore they require proper ittention in health, economic and social matters. Organised hy the World

Health Organisation (WHO), in cooperation with the health ministry, the meeting is attended by 50 representatives and specialists in Arah and foreign countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region including Jordan.

The health ministry, said Dr. Shahed, would spare no efforts in implementing WHOcharted programmes for the care of the elderly.

Abdul Majid Abdul Hadi, the WHO representative at the meeting, said that in WHO's view there can be no special programmes for the care of the elderly separate from the Senior citizen care, Dr.

Abdul Hadi added, should be part of the primary health care service adopted by each country in accordance with its own

Organisers said the meeting was an opportunity for the exchange of expertise and information related and it was expected to result in guidelines for workers in the field in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Attending the meetings along with Jordan are representatives from India, Iran, Egypt, Tunisia, Syria, Qatar, Bahrain, and Cyprus.

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Senate speaker receives report on Kashmir

AMMAN (Petra) - Speaker of the Senate Alimad At Lawzi Saturday received a copy of a report compiled by the Pakistani parliament about the Kashmir problem. The Pakistani legislature has been distributing copies of the report to all world parliaments, according to Mr. Lawzi who said that Jordan is committed to international legality and human rights princi-ples in all international or regional conflicts.

### Amman-Sydney flights to start

AMMAN (Petra) - The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) announced Saturday that it has concluded a deal with the Civil Aviation Authority of Australia, for the commencement of direct flights between Amman and Sydneys. The CAA said in a statement that under the agreement Royal Jordanian (RJ) will make two weekly flights between Amman and Sydney against two flights by Quantas, the Australian airline. It said that the agreement came as a result of talks which CAA Director Ahmad Iweiber held in Sydney last September.

### French to restore Dead Sea manuscripts

AMMAN (Petra) - Under a deal signed by the Higher Council for Science and Technology and the French Electricity Company, the latter will carry out restoration and maintenance of the Dead Sea manuscripts which were inscribed in hous. The government has approved the project which is backed by guarantees from the reach government, and the manuscripts were flows Friday to Paris for the year-long mainte-

### 500 businessmen to discuss monetary issues

AMMAN (Petra) - Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Saeed Nahulsi will be Philadelphia Hotel Monday evening by the Jordanian Businessmen's Association. Discus. sion at the meeong which will be attended by 500 Jordanian husinessmen will focus on monetary and banking issues relevant to the Middle East peace process.

### Relief supplies sent to Chechen flood victims

AMMAN (Petra) - In pursuit of its policy of coming to the aid of Arah and Muslim people stricken with natural disasters, the Hashemite Charity Organisation (HCO) Saturday despatched 14 tonnes of relief supplies to the Chechen Republic to help relieve the victims of recent floods. Minister of Awqaf and Islamie Affairs Abdul Salam Al Ahhadi, who saw off the plane, said that on board were medical and food supplies in addition to blankets. Dr. Abbadi said all the relief supplies were donated hy the people of Jordan to the flood victims in the Chechen Republic.

### Antiquities director to participate in Cairo conference

AMMAN (Petra) - The director of the and the Middle East. Dr. Tell, said he would

# Parliament to construct new complex to house offices for senators, deputies

AMMAN (Petra) — Parliament has acquired two dunums of land nearby its prefixes to construct a new huilding to house offices for members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, according to an announcement by Parliament Secretary General Saleh Al

The Prime Ministry and the General Command of the Jordanian Armed Forces have given their consent to the project and assigned two dunums next to the Parliament huilding for its implementation, said Mr. Zonbi in a statement

Saturday.

He said the building will be linked to the main building via an underground tunnel.

Mr. Zoubi said designs for the project have already been completed and work would start soon. In addition to the new

offices, he added, the new complex will include a car park, a library, a conference hall and areas for several other

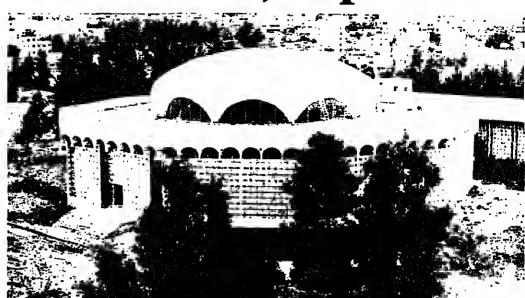
At the same time, he said. designs have been drawn up for the construction of another building within this complex to serve as a waiting hall for citizens wishing to meet their

representatives.

Mr. Zoubi said other preparations were also underway for the opening of the 12th Parliament expected earty next month.

His Majesty King Hussein usually opens the session with a speech from the throne, then a joint session of the two houses is held and later senarate meetings are scheduled, explained Mr. Zouhi.

In preparing for the coming session, he noted, a central computer system has been installed to record and store various activiões of the two houses including legislation and minutes of each of the sessions, as well as research studies conducted on parlia-



dome of the Jordanian Parliament (File photo)

parliament staff has already been trained on the computer and has taken courses in En-According to Mr. Zouhi, the glish language, secretarial

work and storing legal research

# Missing persons found in police custody after families place advertisements in press advertisement about his mis

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A 30-year-old man reported missing 10 days ago in Irbid was discovered at Zarqa police station four days later.

Adel A. Dalqamouni was picked up by police Friday Nov. 5, because of "incriminating circumstances," Aref Dalqamouni, Adel's father, told the Jordan Times Satur-

Mr. Dalgamouni said he was unaware that his son was in the custody of police, and when Adel disappeared on Nov. 5, he feared that his son has been kidnapped or killed. "I informed the police station (in Irbid)... They

assured me that they would check with other stations, but apparently Zarqa police station was not alerted" said the father of five.

He said that his only alternative was to place an

sing son in local newspapers. Mr. Dalqamouni said that after the advertisement

appeared, he received a call from an official at Baireen Jail in Zarqa informing him that his son was in police

Adel told the Jordan Times he was waiting at a Zarqa hus station about midnight Friday to catch a hus to Irbid when he was arrested by police. He believes the police be-came suspicious of his pre-

sence at that area at that time of night and arrested him. Adel contends that police security patrols were intensified prior and during the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections and that officers were

picking up any one they found "suspicious." Adel's 60-year-old father said he was upset that his son had to stay in jail for four days for what he contends is "no wrongdoing."

.. Adel A. Dalqamouni

"My son is not a trouble maker, and this is the first time he has ever been in police custody," said the angry father.

A police officer told the Jordan Times that it is rontine police procedure to check the background of any person arrested under "incriminating circumstances," before releasing him/her.



Mohammad O. Sharedee

Usually, the official explained, this process could take three to four days. .... In a separate incident, an Irbid boy who was reported missing on Nov. 7, was found m police custody in Amman

four days later. "My brother was picked up by the Amman police Sunday while he was trying to sell chewing gum in the streets," the sister of Mohammed O. Sharedee told the Jordan Times Friday. She said when her brother

did not return home, the family became worried and reported him missing to Irhid police. But the officers said they had no information on the boy, said the sister.

The family placed an advertisement including a description and photograph of the missing boy, in the local newspapers.

The 11-year-old boy's sister said the family received a telephone call the next day from the Amman police informing the family that their

son was in police custody. -It seems that my brother, got bored in Irbid and decided on his own to leave the house and go to Amman," the sister said. She said that the police were helpful, and treated her hrother kindly while in custody, until he was

### Arafat tactics fuel discontent

(Continued from page 1) qualified hy measures that could guarantee an efficient Palestinian performance — through political and organi-

sational reforms. "The endorsement of the majority of those who voted (at the PCC) in favour of the declaration of principles (with Israel) — judging hy their presentations at the meeting - was conditional upon improving the Palestinian performance and the mobilisacon of all Palestinian potentials.... because there is an acute awareness that the accord will either lead to Palestinian independence or the consolidation of Israeli occupation," the memoran-

dum said. A month after the PCC session, many officials and negotiators are reaching the conclusion that if Mr. Arafat continues to pursue his Israeli-PLO negotiaoons will close the door against all possibilities of an independent Palestinian state.

In an article published in Al Hayat last month, Nabil Amr, a former PLO ambassador and close aide to Mr. Arafat, indicated that it was organisation and that the new era needs a new leadership. PLO officials who are lead-

ing the "opposition fromwithin" movement, insist that they are by no means ready to join the opposition hut will not tolerate Mr. Arafat's

how coherent the emerging coalition will prove to be. They — just like the opposition — come from different political backgrounds. Mr. Arafat might successfully appease some of his criocs hy appointing them to important positions.
"The aim to gather

momentum for a movement of change from within," said one PLO official involved in the reformist drive. "Thus even if some drop out it will not matter once popular pressure is huilt up on Mr. Arafat."

Analysts do not rule the possibility that some might join the reformist camp to improve their hargaining position in the current power struggle over posicions in the

negodating team, the PNA or The "reformists," however, are expected to face se-

rious obstacles. Mr. Arafat's critics from the Fateh movement have been reinctant to apply pressure on the PLO leader partly for fear of splitting the Fateh movement and partly he-cause they risk losing their

livelihoods. Secondly, if they sncceeded in convening the Palestine National Conncil (PNC), they will find themselves confronting both Mr. Arafat on the one hand, and hardline opponents of the

accord on the other. Aware of such a definite possibility, Mr. Arafat is most likely to try to corner his criocs by trying to force them to choose between the 'peace camp and "the opposition."

Thirdly, even though many PLO officials, including some from Fateh, seem ready to demand the resignation of Mr. Arafat if he does not ahandon his singlehanded methods, it is still not clear if either Mr. Ahhas, who said to support the "reform movement" or Farouk Kaddonmi, who is the second-incommand of Fateh, is ready to take over - or can muster

the needed support. Mr. Arafat has heen apparently trying to play Mr. Ahhas and Mr. Kaddoumi against each other by alternately "promoting" or "ex-cluding" them from the 'decision-making circle."

But PLO officials and analysts point out that the issue is no longer an in-house powerplay as international donors are voicing dissatisfactions with the PLO poli-The prospect for change so

far seem slim, especially that the PLO is badly split over the accord, and the power struggle has intensified as Mr. Arafat want to ensure his control during the autonomy period. But even if Mr. Arafat

succeeds to deflate the mounting discontent. Palestinian officials and analysts expect opposition to widen and deepen, particularly once the Palestinian autonomy is set up and the leadership moves to the occupied territories.

# CARE, Jordan agree to start

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Anstralian charity organisation CARE Saturday signed an agreement with the Ministry of Social Development to implement several development, humanitarian and relief proiects in Jordan, especially during natural disasters or in cases of regional conflicts affecting . the Kingdom.

Under the agreement, CARE will also help rehabilitate people through projects that would enable them to resume their normal economic and social life in the aftermath

CARE will make contributions towards the implementaoon of income-generating proiects which would employ workers in the economic, social and services sectors and will provide food, medical aid and equipment for these pro-

For its part, the Ministry of Social Development will supervise and follow up the implementation of these projects. CARE is a humanitarian, nonprofit, secular organisation concerned with emergency

and local community development in the spirit of self-help. For the past two years

CARE has been active in emergency relief projects for Iraq, Jordan, Yemen and Mauritania through its regional office in Amman. CARE has recently become involved in small, local community development projects in cooperaoon with the Ministry of Social Development, and the organisation hopes to further expand its activities with a focus on community development.

CARE which formally . opened its office in Amman in 1959, signed the first agree-ment with Jordan to provide relief assistance to the country

The agreement Saturday was signed by Minister of Social Development Mohammad Sqour and CARE Regional Director Robert Yallop.

Cinema

# CONCORD Tel.: 677420 Tonight 1. The Fugitive 2. The Prince

#### the guest of honour at a meeting to be held at high time to restructure the

It is not clear how far and

Department of Anoquities, Safwan Tell, flew to Cairo Saturday to attend a seminar on the protection of cultural heritage in North Africa submit a working paper on the department's activities, especially in the restoration of archaelogical sites.

# development, relief projects

# WHAT'S GOING ON

**EXHIBITIONS** Art exhibition by artist Ibrahim Al Nashashibi at Baladna Art Gallery (Gardens Street).

\* The Palestinian embroidery exhibit at the Royal Cultural Centre (daily 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.).

 ★ Jordanian stamps exhibition at the Orthodox Chub in Abdonn.

★ Exhibition of recent paintings by artist Ammar Khammash at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing, the permanent exhibition (Saturday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

☆ Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Fahmi Al Qaysi at the Alia Art

### REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

A Service of Remembrance will be held at the Church of the Redeemer at 6:30 p.m.

#### VACANCY SENIOR CLERK

A foreign establishment is seeking a qualified candidate to work in its information section.

Required qualifications: 1. General and fair knowledge of politics, economy, culture, social affairs etc.

2. Professional experience in the field of information or public relations is desirable. 3. Excellent command of English, writing, speaking

Please send curriculum vitae and your telephone number to:

and English typewriting.

P.O.Box 2835, Amman no later than Nov. 16, 1993. Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KAYED Director General: **MOHAMMAD AMAD** 

Editor-in-Chief: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH Editorial and advertising offices:

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Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

# Meaningful occasion

HIS Majesty King Hussein's 58th birthday celebrations today distinguished themselves from previous occasions by two milestones: The elections for the 12th parliament and the advent of peace. One is the Middle East peace process which has made considerable progress during 1993, unmatched by all the past 25 years of fruitless efforts. If, as expected, this year will witness a real breakthrough on the various Arab-Israeli fronts, then the King's birthday this year would acquire a historical dimension.

On the internal level, the fact that the 1993 general elections were conducted on schedule, in spite of all the odds, would surely go down in history as the year that consolidated the Jordanian democratic process and made it irreversible. Contemporary historians will not fail to mention that during the King's 58th year, democracy in Jordan was consolidated and moderation achieved.

The King has been at the forefront of Arab and non-Arab leaders campaigning for a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict. That fact has been acknowledged by friend and foe alike. He has had a vision of peace during all the years at the helm of the country. Despite obstacles in the path of peace, by Israelis and Arabs alike, the King kept carrying the torch of peace and relentlessly pursuing it. And to help achieve this noble goal, the King has positioned Jordan on the track of democracy and moderation.

When we, God willing, celebrate the King's 59th birthday next year, we hope that the seeds of peace and democracy that His Majesty has sown would have borne fruit.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabie daily Saturday described the repeated differences among the leaders of Yemen as a real pain that tends to undermine the Yemeni unity. The differences constitute a real threat to this unity and the Arabs hope the Yemeni leaders would soon contain and dispel these differences and rise above petty disputes to reestablish confidence in the unity of the north and south of Yemen which fused a few years ago, said the daily. Perhaps Jordan is one Arab country most concerned with and continually advocates unity among the Arabs who, the paper said, could together chart a brighter future. Noting that King Hussein was quick to try to end the differences in views among the Yemeni leaders since the start of the crisis, the paper said that the Yemeni people and leaders realise that their unity is targeted by their enemies and therefore ought to act in a manner that would best safeguard this unity. It is indeed our hope, said the paper, that the Yemeni people will protect their unity and preserve our joy over their cohesion and their solidarity. It said the time has come for the Yemeni people to prove to the world in general and the Arab states in particular that their unity is possible and sustainable and that the Yemeni people are determined to overcome the obstacles and are resolved to fight off hegemony and hostile forces that aim at dividing their country,

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'l daily drew the Arab Nation's attention to the fact that the United States is only feared by the Arabs in the wake of the Gulf crisis. Following its failures in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia, the United States is desperately trying to consolidate its hegemony over the Arab states, said Taren Masarweh. Washington has of course tried its hand with Europe and Japan, where it hoped to impose its domination following the downfall of the Soviet Union, he said. The writer said that the United States is imposing its terrible presence on the Arabs by pursuing the embargo on Iraq and by pillaging the Arab World's oil wealth. The United States is also imposing its hegemony on the Arabs through the so-called peace process which aims to perpetuate Israel's domination of the fate of the Arab World, added the writer. Amongst the nations of the world only the Arabs stand out as obedient to the "American master" and out of all nations, including the hungry Somalis, the Arabs seem to be totally humiliated by and totally subjugated to the American will, according to the writer. He urged the Arabs to learn from the lessons of Haiti, nlia and Bosnia and throw off the yoke of hegemony and

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

# What will be Jordan's economic peace dividends?

Normally, peace is a good thing to happen. Only arms suppliers may lose as a result of resolving dispute and this

could be the case in the Middle East.
However, we ourselves may be in for a disappointment. especially when it comes to our bigh expectations of peace

The public opinion was conditioned to believe that peace means economic prosperity, resulting from massive financial aid and foreign investments.

Of course the Palestinians under occupation will benefit. First of all they bave nothing to lose, and they may bave a lot in gain both politically and economically, but is that applicable

Jordan? My answer is no. During the past 24 months, the Jordanian economy was taking off. Growth rate is anything between 6 and 12 per cent in real terms. The new set of circumstances, and the uncertainty that comes wilb it, will cause an interruption, which Jordan may need some time to recover from

The indications are very obvious: The stock exchange rine indications are very obvious. The stock exchange witnessed a setback, prices dropped and turnover declined. Peace may be good for the Jordanian companies and may justify a rise of, say. 10 per cent in sbare prices, but the speculators have pushed the prices up by 25 per cent in anticipation of a fair deal. Apparently, the actual agreements were not up to expectations, and an adjustment of 15 per cent down looks reasonable as a correction.

Peace state market is almost at a standstill. Both buyers and

Real estate market is almost at a standstill. Both buyers and sellers prefer to wait and see. They are not sure whether the impact of the interim agreement will be positive or negative. When one is not certain, things are put on bold for some time.

The banking system is equally confused: Would the creation The banking system is equally confused: Would the creation of the Palestinian self-government give them an opportunity to branch out in the West Bank and Gaza, or would it close the window of opportunity as Palestinians may like to establish their own commercial banks? Since the know-how and the private capital are abundant, most likely the Palestinian government will encourage the foundation of new commercial and development banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the Palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may seize part of the palestinian self-government banks which may se nian deposits now in Jordanian banks. Moreover, banks are not sure whether to get ready for a boom and expansion phase or for an economic recession and the bad debts that come with

With an extensive economic development programme in the Palestinian autonomy, the West Bank may become a lucrative market for Jordanian exports. A Jordanian minister estimated that Jordanian exports to the West Bank can top \$300 million a year. The figure may be on the high side unless Jordan

supplies the West Bank and Gaza with their energy needs, but what is the use if the Israelis will continue to control the bridges and keep the West Bank as a captive market for Israeli products? It was leaked that Israel will permit Jordanian exports to the West Bank but impose a low ceiling of \$15

million a year or only 5 per cent of the potential market.

If the bridges continue to be open to Palestinian exports to Jordan, which reportedly has 60 per cent Israeli input, and if Jordan fails to convert the bridges into international borders with customs and passport posts, it is possible that the industrial in the West Bank, which will be in partnership with Israeli industrialists, will be at the expense of the Jordanian

Of course, one can say that Jordan is an independent state and has a free haod to take measures and impose restrictions as may be necessary for the protection of Jordanian interests, but the real life experience proved that the Jordanian government will hesitate to take any timely action that may be criticised by the Palestinians, Americans or the Israelis.

ence to raise funds to finance peace. It is worrying that the president did not care to mention Jordan, or for that matter Syria or Lebanon. Only the Israelis and Palestinians will be invited. It is only normal for Jordan to feel abandoned. Jordan played a constructive role in bringing about peace. It has borne the burden of Palestinian demographic waves in 1948, 1967 and 1991, yet its cooperation and sacrifices are not being appreciated by the international community in a meaningful

manner.

Even debt relief of 50 per cent by the Paris Club, which was granted to Egypt and Poland, was not considered for Jordan.

Jordan only got Mr. Clinton's vague promise of debt relief which is not exactly debt reduction.

To that we must add that even before the recent disappoint ing developments it was recognised by the pro-Israeli thinktanks in America and the promoters of peaceful settlement in the Middle East that Jordan has practically no major economic gains that may result from concluding a peace agreement and that any concessions that Jordan is required to make must be

Unfortunately, it seems that Jordan did everything possible and went out of its way to belp, but got nothing in return and may stand to lose politically and economically, unless something is done to alter the current course of action or ...

# Yielding to pressure and attempting to be agreeable to all may cost Jordan dearly. President Clinton called for an international donors' confer-

# The political responsibility of intellectuals

By Dr. James Zogby

change this reality and not merely spend the 1980s and

1990s repeating their stale

charges.

Being engaged in political

processes is an imperative for

intellectuals because there can

be no real analysis without real

practical experience. And it is

this absence of involvement in

political processes that pro-

duces the cynicism, the abso-

lutism and, ultimately, the

irrelevance of the so-called in-

For example, they denounce the Israel-PLO accords as a

capitulation that was the result

of an asymmetry of power. But

what is their contribution to

correcting this imbalance? It is

in fact correct to observe that

the accords are a function of an

asymmetry of power and as

such, represent the best possi-

ble result available to the

Palestinians at this time. Furth-

er, conditions on the ground in

and outside the Middle East

strongly suggest that this time is the best available for at least

the next generation or two for

reaching any negotiated settle-

ment. To have refused to come

to an agreement, the engaged

Palestinian leadership would

have created a situation that

could only yield greater suffer-

ing for Palestinians under

occupation and increased eco-

nomic hardship for Palesti-

nians dependent on the PLO's

These choices being un-

acceptable, the leadership

acted. But the intellectuals,

not responsible for the pro-

ducts of their thought, propose

no political alternatives other

than continued struggle in sup-

port of maximalist demands -

without a care as to how much

suffering would result from

Because they are unengaged

in politics, their failure to

achieve their absolutist de-

mands produces cynicism and

harsb name-calling of those

who either disagree with their

views or propose alternative

political courses. And because

their abstract slogans.

tellectuals

A few weekends ago, an Arab American organisation beld its convention in Washington. Bringing together a number of Arab American and Arab the conference was little more than a harsb three-day long attack on the Israel-PLÓ

Most of the 100 or so attendees were sharply critical of the agreement and used terms like "abject surrender," "tragedy" and "catastrophe" to describe it. Some of those who defended the accord were denounced as "collaborators," "apologists" or "opportun-

As distressing as it was to hear the harsh rhetoric, what is more troubbing is that these attacks are a function of a deeper malaise gripping many Arab and Arab American intellectuals, which derives from their lack of engagement in real political processes and their resultant self-marginalisa-

For example, while many of last weekend's speakers heaped abuse on the PLO for having agreed to the accord, not one of them offered a realistic political alternative.

We have witnessed many such sessions over the past number of years. I can recall going to conferences in the 1970s and 1980s and hearing paper after paper delivered on "U.S. Foreign Policy and the Middle East." The presentations — were like a Bach fugue — infinite variations on a single theme: the U.S. is an imperialistie power and under the control of a Zionist lubby and, therefore, worthy of no more than condemnation.

The Arab and Arab American intellectuals in fashion back then were mostly Marxists of one stripe or another, and their criticisms reflected that language.

When, some time in the late 1970s, some Arab Americans began to organise politically in order to understand the workings of the U.S. political process and make changes in U.S. policy, the intellectuals distanced themselves from these efforts and remained unengaged. They were Marxists who had never read Marx. In his famous "Theses on Feuerbach," Marx wrote: "The philosophers have, to

this point, sought only to describe the world, in varying w. ys; the point, however, is to change it. So, if U.S. policy was, in fact, what the critics of the

1980s said it was, their respon-

sibility was to do something to

they bave not learned the lesson that can be learned only through engagement, that "politics is the art of the possible," they continue to pretend that their moralising desires about what "ought to be" and "what is fair" are anything more than the tragic-sounding whines that they really are.

Having said this, I state that there is a real role for Arab and Arab American intellectuals to play — but it must be based on real politics and must propose real alternatives, so that there can be a real debate over the future course of peace and U.S.-Arab relations.

We are, all of us, supporters and critics of the peace accords, operating in uncharted waters. Not having been in this situation before, we genuinely need a collective discussion to belp us discover the new language and new priorities we must develop to address the new realities.

I do not believe that in the new circumstances of the postcold war, and now, the postpeace accords world, the Arabs have to be the losers. But we may well lose ground in the competition with Israel if Arab intellectuals and analysts do not engage in an effort to formulate new policies that can help mold the new realities in a pro-Arab direction.

Absent such engagement. we have the current situation in which the Israelis are developing pro-active and creative approaches (to open diplomatic relations and commercial relations with Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and now several of the Muslim countries, and plans for Israeli involvement in the post-peace Arab East are evolving apace); while Arabs appear to be either paralysed or reactive. with their intellectuals and opposition-thinkers seemingly capable of no more tban issuing denunciations or recasting outmoded cold war for-

I bave recently read excellent analyses from two generational poles in Arab intellectual thought. Mnhammad Hassanain Haikal of Egypt and Rami Kbouri of Jordan, though differing in their views. present the types of engaged intellectual analysis that this period requires. Their writings reflect an appreciation of reality and, at the same time, are spired by visions of attainable future goals.

It is on this question of vision that I want to close. A leading Arab political figure once described to me what he felt were the prime requisites of leadership. They were, he said, power in reserve (meaning force and the capacity to use it when required) and communication (meaning the ability to always remain in contact with one's people). When an aide chimed in "and vision", the leader responded, "No, that is not so necessary."

This apparent refusal to consider vision, or future thinking, as central to leadership and the formation of policy is so clearly at the heart of the malaise of many Arab and Arab American intellectuals and political leaders. Political leadership, caught up as it is in the day to day struggle to implement policy, frequently finds it difficult to project a vision. But when both the intellectuals who support the leadership and those in opposition have no vision, this is a recipe for disaster.

We bave laboured with this issue in the U.S. Much has been made of the Clinton administration's effort to define its vision of U.S. foreign and domestic policy in the post-cold war period. It is a difficult challenge for the new administration because it must define, in terms acceptable to the American people, our relationship with the world, the use and limits of our power, our national interests and our vision of how all this is to be brought about and the values we want to project in a changing world. And the administration must do all this while addressing immediate pressing needs: Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Russia and North America Free Trade Agreement (NAF-TA) on the foreign policy side; and the systemic problems of urban poverty, racism, the health care crisis, crime and violence and the staggering

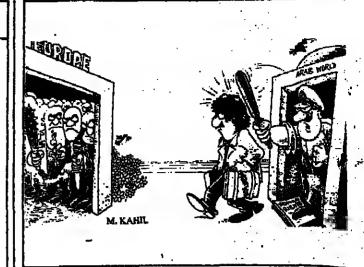
debt on the domestic side. This debate over vision was central to the 1992 presidential election and has continued to develop since then. In fact, it was the absence of what Mr. Bush himself referred to as "the vision thing" that contributed to his defeat last

Mr. Clinton won and now must apply his vision, all the while modifying it to meet changing realities. But be knows that, if be is to succeed, he must construct and articulate a future course that can inspire and mobilise voters to

support his policies.
While it may be fair to criticise Mr. Clinton's vision or to find it inadequate or inconsistently applied — it nonetheless exists and is being regularly presented by administration officials, discussed and con-structively criticised by analysts and intellectuals. The debate is intense.

It was, in conclusion, the absence of this kind of debate that I found so troubling at a meeting of Arab and Arab American intellectuals. To either support or criticise an extant policy is easy. But to plot a future course, to know the kind of Palestine one wants to see in the next 10 years and to propose a realistic course of action that will lead to that end - that is what is required and has been, until now, so sorely missing.

The writer is president of the Washington-based Arab American Institute, He contributed this article to the Jordan



# The status of Palestinians in hosting Arab states

By Pascal B. Karmy

It seems that there is a misconception or ignorance on the part of some Arab quarters and most foreigners about the rights Palestinians enjoy in the host Arab states namely Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Iraq, where Palestinians took refuge in the aftermath of the 1948 war with Israel. I shall . briefly try to explain the situa-

briefly try to explain the situa-tion without delving into his-torical and legal detail.

With regard to Palestinians in Jordan, the union of the West Bank with Jordan in 1950 had the effect of automatically granting Jordanian citizenship to any non-Jewish Palestinian who is habitually residing in who is habitually residing in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as provided in Article 3 of the Jordanian Nationality Law of 1954 as amended. Consequently, all Palestinians who were habitually resident in Jor-dan, whether in the West Bank or in the East Bank, had absolutely the same rights as Jordamans, including of course poli-tical rights. Some Palestinians became prime ministers of Iordan or held important ministerial portfolios, such as the foreign affairs. In Syria, Palestinians were

initially allowed to work at odd private jobs and some were recruited as experts in various government departments or official public establishments. But their status was not lega and properly regulated until the promulgation of the Leg-islative Decree of 1956. This law stipulated that Palestinians residing in Syria shall enjoy the same rights as the Syrians with regard to employment in government ministries and departments and public establisbments, as well as to work in the private sector, and shall be subject to military service provided that they shall retain their Palestinian nationality. As a consequence of this

law, Palestinians were employed everywhere in Syria and could, for example, register in the associations concerned as lawyers, doctors, engineers, merchants and could be appointed as representatives or directors of local or foreign companies and firms on the same footing as Syrians. In accordance with the decision of the Arab League, they

were granted a travel document known as "Document de Voyage", which is similar to a passport, to enable them to travel abroad. The same kind of document was granted by Lebanon, Egypt (especially to the inhabitants of Gaza Strip) and Iraq. This document was recognised by many western states, including the U.S. and the Eastern Europe states.

Many Palestinian refugees,

holders of this document were able to travel or to immigrate to the U.S., Europe, Canada and South America. The Syrian law applies to Palestinians in the camps or outside them.

In accordance with the Svrian policy, the purpose of the proviso in the abovementioned Syrian law, as regards the retention of the Palestinian nationality, was to prevent the absorption of the Palestinians by the Syrian people; that is to say, to keep alive the Palestinian entity and existence, separate from the Syrian people, and thus put them on solid legal ground to claim repatriation to their bomeland in accordance with U.N. Resolution 194 of 1947. This proviso will furthermore preclude Israel from ignoring the national rights of the Palesti-

In Lebanon, Palestinians were also granted the Document de Voyage. They could work in the private sector or carry on business or own property provided they obtained the necessary permits or authorisations from the ministries concerned. In other words,

residing in Lebanon. However, it must be pointed out that thousands of Palesti nians who took refuge in Leba non in 1948 and therefore wen able to obtain the Lebanes nationality through the court or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the ground that either their ancestors were Lebanese or they were consi dered as expatriates. But the majority retained their Palesti nian nationality.

Lebanon cannot gran: \ citizenship across the board to Palestinians living there be cause it will seriously and dangerously disturb the deli cate the sensitive balance power between the sectaria and religious communities.

In Iraq, as from 1950, the Iraqi government granted Iraq passports to all Palestinians liv ing there. They are being tre ated on equal footing with the Iraqis and thus enjoy the same rights as the latter, minus the political rights.

In Egypt, the Egyptian government granted the Docsment de Voyage to the feithousand Palestinians wh took refuge there in 1948. They could work or carry of business or obtain proper subject to obtaining the neces sary permit or authorisation During Abdul Nasser's regime Palestinian students wherever lived, were admitted the Egyptian universities for

"Palestinians in Jordan enjoy much wider rights, including political rights, than those exercised in the other Arab countries. In effect, ber hell Palestinians in Jordan are Jordanians."

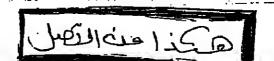
It can be concluded from the .... a sweeping manner the Palestinians in the host Artified See above that it is wrong to say it work, carry on business or one property. They can freely per form all those activities in Syst and Iraq without any impediment while in Lebanon Egypt those activities are mb ject to permits or authorise.

A comparison between the !. status of Palestinians in Jor dan, Syria, Lebanon, Egy and Iraq shows that in lords they enjoy much wider right including political rights, the those exercised in the other Arab countries. In effect Palestinians in Jordan af Jordanians. And this is an 📆 evitable and natural result the union of the West Ba with the Hashemite Kingdo

of Jordan in 1950. Had this union not be formed, perhaps Palesting in Jordan would have calon limited rights as in the Arab host states, But since union was achieved, should draw the logic con sion: that equality of rights!

origin or descent, exists
Finally, I shall quote from his Majesty King Huster nationwide address last many in which he says:
strengh of unity among members of our one family regardless of origin or desort their equality in rights obligations in the most critic ly situated part of the go they were treated as foreigners to be tampered with.





# Features

Following is Professor Hisham Sharahi's address at the 26th Annual Convention of the Arah American University Grudunes (AAUG) an Oct. Mr. Sharabi is professor of European Intellectual History and Omar Al Mukhtar professor of Arab culture at Georgetown University in Washington and editor of the English language quarterly Journal of Palestine studies.

Last month I visited Palestine for the first time in 46 years. I left Palestine before the fall. shortly after graduating from the American University of Beirut (AUB) in 1946 to pursue my studies at the University of Chicago. I went to see my hume in the Ajami quarter. but I did not try to go in. My Juffa was not the Jaffa I now saw; this was a surrealistic remnant of the city I knew. Nothing has changed and everything has changed. The truth I already knew was forcefully reconfirmed: memory can preserve itself only by keeping the present at hay.

The memory I wanted to preserve is of the Jaffa which some of you may know: of a gay, vihrant, hright, city, get-

Asten

ting rapidly prosperous after the end of World War II on its world-famous oranges. Jaffa represented then the confident mood that prevailed throughout Palestine. Palestinians society was at that time a highly literate society, developing slowly into the kind of secular. modernising society the pioneers of the Arab Rennaisance of the previous genera-tion bad envisioned for the entire Arab World.

My sad return to Jaffa made me experience the full tragedy that befell my hometown and the entirety of my country. It was as though an atom bomb had been dropped on Jaffa and obliterated it. Like Hiroshima. it was rebuilt. But unlike the now prosperous Japanese city. Jaffa never came back to life. Instead, another city, populated by another people, was created. The original inhabitants have simply disappeared; the few who remained or took refuge in it from the surrounding villages led a shadowy life in the ruined outskirts, reminders of the city no longer there.

The life that was interrupted nearly fifty years ago in Jaffa and in all of Palestine, can now be rebuilt. In this sense Pales--

The future of democracy in Palestine

Travelling in Gaza and throughout the West Bank I felt the firm soil of Palestine under my feet and the warm Palestinian sun on my face. 1 had been lold by friends who, had visited the occupied territories that Jewish settlements, were to be seen everywhere, on hill tops, along the main roads, close to wherever there was a Palestinian village or town. While this was certainly true of certain areas, particularly around Jerusalem and along the Ramallah-Nablus road, most of the settlements I 5aw appeared isolated and thinly populated, vulnerable encampments rather than expanding outposts of a powerful settlement project. In contrast, the Arab towns and villages strewn across the countryside

blending with the landscape. This was not the overcrowded space I had envisioned. It seemed capable of sustaining a much larger population than it now had. especially if traditional agriculture gives way to more modern techniques and high-tech industry replaced the old methods of manufacture. The

problem should no longer be

looked calm and serene. firmly

rooted in and confidently

framework hut in terms of the political and economic decisions the new society will take in refashioning itself and its

I don't think there is much point in spending much time discussing the Oslo agreement and its various shortcomings. Most of those who support it and those who oppose it have much the same fears and reservations about it. Where they disagree is over what has been negotiated, signed and ratified.

I think we all agree that a far better agreement could have been negotiated. But even a better and more acceptable agreement would still have essentially the same framework, the one based on the National Palestine Council's 1988 resolution accepting the two-state solution and recognising Israel's right to exist. and one governing the peace process launched in Madrid in 1989. The difference between this agreement and a better one would have been in detail but not in basic structure.

The fact is we have been pushed into the water. But if we do not swim we will drown. What is the point in harping on what most of us do not disalternative to the course of action provided by this agreement. which has been enthu-. siastically endorsed by the International community and accepted, albeit reluctantly and with many reservations, by the majority of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, according to recent polls?

Rejection of the agreement may appear to some the proof ideological purity, to others it may be psychologically the most satisfying decision to take. But it is a Ouxiotic position at best, and could be regarded as callous when the majority of the Palestinians who have carried the burden of the struggle over all these years have chosen to take the risk of the fair accompli. It is clear that Palestinian rejection this time will cause the world to turn its back to us and forget there is a Palestinian problem. leaving us and the Israelis to settle our differences alone.

Probably the only logical. though in my opinion suicidal. alternative is the one put forward by the fundamentalists: all or nothing. And this is an alternative which the majority has also rejected.

The question should not be whether the PLO should enter negotiations on the basis of the agreement but whether the PLO, given its history of corruption and ineptness. can handle such a huge task and what should be done to steer it or push it in the right direction.

We talk today about human rights, basic freedoms, democracy. What do these concepts mean to the Palestinian people who over the last half century have been uprooted and dispersed, and their society crushed? These concepts certainly mean to them a great deal more than they do to people who already enjoy security and a stable social order. Having to start from scratch, the Palestinians want to build a free, humane and democratic Palestine. They will not be satisfied, for example with just the slogans of, but will want truly free elections in which no one will be elected by 99 per cent of the vote. They also want to do what no Arab regime has been able to achieve since independence: not only to award women full rights and equality but also to honour Palestinian women, by

acknowledging their unique

and the struggle for nation. survival. What happened in Algeria will not be allowed to happen in Palestine. Wha happened in Algeria shall nt be allowed to happen in Pales

As they rebuild society the Palestinians also have to build their state. No free society in the modern age can endure without state sovereignty. The West Bank and Gaza will remain just a geographic expression and the Palestinian people only "inhabitants" or "residents" or refugees until the state of Palestine is established. One glance at what is happening in the Balkans, in the former Soviet Union and in many other parts of the world, will convince us of how crucial statehood is for the survival of small peoples.

For the Palestinians, especially crucial is building a state firmly based on the rule of law. This is of the utmost importance, for the alternative would only be another version of patriarchal authority, for which democracy and human rights are merely manipulatory slo-1gans: in short, just another. mukhabarat state.

Unfortunately, the way things are going does not inspite much optimism. Two examples: Reporting from Amman earlier this month, Middle, East International correspondent. Lamis Andoni describes how what she calls the "chaotic" working practices of the PLO were affecting its effectiveness in dealing with the post-agreement situation on

the ground.
'The leadership's delay in forming committee to discuss details of the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho and the responsibilities of the elected council have had more to do with the chaotic working practices and lack of preparedness that characterise the PLO. Furthermore, the leadership seems to be deliberately delaying the process. It hopes thereby both to secure a bigger role in administering the funds for the occupied territories and to ensure victory in the elec-

And she adds: "Many fear that (the leadership) might simply move the degenerating PLO institutions to the territories lock, stockand barrel, without either new blood or organisational re-

Yousef Ibrahim, the Egyptian correspondent of the New York Times reporting from Tunis last week, described the same situation this way:

"Senior (Palestinian) officials spoke of their concern that the leadership... was moving too slowly in putting the right people in charge. There is also some criticism

of (the) tendency, in the words of a senior executive, to, 'favour trust over competence', by placing loyalists in important positions and ignoring talented but outspoken Palestinians who may question (the leadership's absolute authority.' And he adds:

'The competition for posts in the coming Palestinian administration in Jericho has hampered the PLO's ability to communicate with the outside world as rivals are consumed in settling accounts with one

What is to be done? More specifically, what can we do here in the United States.

First of all, we must remember that what the Palestinian-American and Arab-American community says and does carries much more weight in Palestine and the Arab World that most of us think. The following thoughts may be useful to consider.

If most of us, particularly the intellectuals, professionals. business people, students and academics continue to restrict their comments and criticisms to private discussions and social gatherings, while maintaining in public neutral or noncommittal, or at best, mildly reproachful attitudes, we should have no one but ourselves to blame for not being taken seriously. In these critical times, only by stepping up and taking a clear position can we make our voice heard and make those in charge take us seriously.

The only way Palestinians. inside and outside of Palestine. can fight for democracy is by engaging in democratic practices: in exercising the freedom of speech and criticism without fear, in holding public meetings, in setting up teach-ins, in ing panel discussions. when it becomes necessary, in taking to the street and demonstrating.

, Only open criticism and debate can generate the kind of

consensus that would yield political results. Political pressure is possible only when criticism is translated into specifie demands.

In the West Bank and Gaza ! learned of different informal groups forming, within the various organisations, among independents, in the women's movement. In this country, the same could happen in the Palestinian-American and Arab-American communities. Groups and individuals forging demands on specific issues and making substantive appeals, directly or through the media can influence events and shape' decision-making.

In concluding. I would like to underscore two issues I have indirectly alluded to: the woman question and Islamic fundamentalism.

Without confronting these two problems openly and directly. Arab society, including Palestinian society, will not be able to carry out the radical. social change to enable it to deal with the modern world and to enter the 21st century.

The evasiveness and hypocrisy with which even progressive and secular males have treated the woman question can only bring shame on Arab manhood. The essential pre-condition of liberating the Arab society, including the Arab male himself, is by the politicisation of the women question, that is, by making it a central issue in the struggle for building a new society in Palestine and in the Arab World as a

As for the Muslim fundamentalists, we refuse to deal with them as enemies. They are not enemies but patriots who have laid down their lives for the liberation of Palestine. The way to deal with militant Islam is certainly not through repressive confrontation, as some Arab regimes have chosen to do, but through dialogue and mutual accommodation. The Palestinians will never accept to be an instrument in the West's war against, islam.

This is why progressive and secular Palestinians should insist on the centrality of these two questions. For on their proper solution will depend not only the kind of society that will be rebuilt in Palestine, but the future and role of Arab and Muslim civilisation in the world.

# Volunteer groups working to help Palestinians help themselves

Rosalind Mandine Murphy

WASHINGTON — International private voluntary organisations (PVOs) are looking to help build social service capabilities and development expertise in the West Bank and Gaza and eventually put themselves "out of business," Bruce Stanley, director of AMIDEAST's development programme in the occupied territories, said Nov. 4.

One problem PVOs are now facing in this regard, however, is the lack of guidelines from the Palestinian leadership, said Mr. Stanley, who is based in Jerusalem and currently on a visit to Washington. He was addressing a luncheon audience at the Centre for Policy Analysis on Palestine

Mr. Stanley reviewed the role of PVOs in Palestinian development in the wake of the Sept. 13 signing of the Declaration of Principles between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

AMIDEAST is a private,

non-profit organisation promoting understanding and cooperation between the United States and the Middle East through education, informaand development prog-

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PVOs are now contending with fast-paced political changes, new priorities and sources of funding and shifting relationships with the Israeli authority and the emerging Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza, Mr. Stanley noted,

PVOs in the area are "struggling to understand where we fit in this new situation," he said. While a changing role is inevitable, PVOs are hoping to restructure themselves in order "to make a difference" to the Palestinian people, he stressed.

Once a Palestinian authority is in place, PVOs will have a "more restrictive" role, particularly in policy-making, Mr. Stanley said. He noted that PVOs have long played a role in establishing development policy in the area through the projects they have initiated and funded. This function eventually will be transferred

to the Palestinian authority. However, PVOs expect to continue to nurture emerging Palestinian institutions and help them "improve services to the Palestinian community." Mr. Stanley said. "International PVOs also expect to con-

tinue to defend the position of local voluntary organisations in their relations with the authorities and donor governments... they expect to have some input on human capital resources, such as providing training and information," Mr. Stanley

For the present, however, PVOs see themselves in a transitional phase. PVOs must begin the process of transferring their roles over to the Palestinian authority and yet hold onto some of their present responsibilities during a transitional period, Mr. Stanley

PVOs are trying to balance their "questions about the Palestinian administration's capabilities under difficult circumstances" with their longheld commitment to Palestinian self-determination, he

Do PVOs transfer all responsibilities to the Palestinian authority? Do PVOs keep a tight hold on funding develop-ment work in the West Bank and Gaza? These are questions PVOs are asking themselves at present, Mr. Stanley said. The answers to these questions for the most part "are in the

The focus now is to "move to build local capabilities and put ourselves out of business," Mr. Stanley said. In the future, international PVOs "will be involved primarily as funding: Organisations.'

In the hopes of shortening the transitional phase, there is a renewed commitment to training, particularly in management and public adminis-tration, he said. PVOs must help the new anthority create well functioning Palestinian institutions assessing Palestinian needs," be said.

Mr. Stanley bemoaned the lack of input from the Palestinian leadership," which he claimed is "hindering current efforts to formulate a new role for PVOs in the West Bank and Gaza.

PVOs, he said, have received "little guidelines from the Palestinian leadership... At present, PVOs have taken the initiative and sponsored conferences and meetings to discuss their future role."
"There is no aggression on

the other side to set an agenda for us. We would encourage an aggressive dialogue," with the Palestinian leadership, be said - United States Information

# Australia's warm waters produce world's finest pearls

By Robert Holloway Agence France Presse

BROOME, Australia — There are three things to look for in apearl, expert Glenice Munro said: "Lustre, more lustre and 1. 1.40 20 vet more lustre."

In a poetic crescendo, the
Australian Concise Oxford

Dictionary defines lustre as "gloss, refulgence... briliance. radiant beauty.

More down-to-earth, Ms. Munro explained that lustre is caused by "the refraction of light through layers of pearl matter; the thicker the pearl the more lustrous."

Up to 18 millimetres in dia-

meter, pearls grown by huge. Pinctada Maxima oysters in the warm waters off northwest Australia are the largest and considered the finest in the world.

"Japan is the leading pro-ducer of pearls, but theirs are a different species and grow from three to eight millimetres," said Ms. Munro. "Broome produces much smaller quantities," she went

"We have a waiting list of three years for people wbo want to add one pearl to a strand. You cannot put just any pearls together; you have to match them for size and Two years ago, a strand of 29 western Australian pearls set a record when it was sold at auction in New York for \$1.2

Half a dozen necklaces each year fetch more than \$500,000, contributing to an export in-dustry which the state govern-ment says is worth 83 million Australian dollars (\$59 million) annually.

European Australians discovered pearls bere in 1861 and until World War I they used, first aboriginal skindivers, then suited and helmeted Japanese divers to work the oyster beds from boats called luggers.

Al Ahd seeks to form coalition

(Continued from page 1)

Ajloun, Mifleh Raheimi of Jerash, Rateb Al Saud of Tafileh and Mr. Majali of

Mr. Majali, Mr. Qudah and Mr. Raheimi won the highest number of votes in their districts. Mr. Raheimi and Mr. Qudah sat next to Mr. Majali during Saturday's press conference but made no comments to the press.

Mr. Saud of Tafileh, the fourth Al Ahd deputy-elect,

was not present at the press Al Ahd members will form the nuclei of the coalition.
Four right-of-centre parties, in addition to Al Abd

won scats in Jordan's 12th Ishaq Al Farah, a deputyelect from Madaba, is a member of the Jordan National Alliance (JNA), Hammad Abu Jamous who won a scat in the First district of Amman is a founding member of the Al Mustakhai Party, Yaqatha party secretary-general Abdal Raouf Al Rawabdeh

secossfully retained his Irbid seat, and the Homeland Party's founding member Mohammad Al Thuweib. won a sest in Amman's Second District. According to sources close to Mr. Rawabdeh, he is not

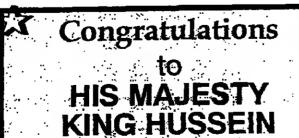
expected to join the coali-The contition is expected to include some members of the three bedouin districts represented by six deputies, as well as at least one deputy from the Ramtha and Beni Kenana district, informed sources

Mr. Majali did his best at Saturday's encounter with the press to keep the public guessing about who and how many members the coalition would have. He kept the door open for any deputy-

"As you know the winning candidates were mostly those not associated with any political party," he said. "The alliance or coalition currently being formed will be open to all deputies of the centre which represent the vast majority of the new Parlia-ment. Members of other parties and independent deputies are invited to join, Mr. Majali added.

Most of the political and economic programmes of the coalition members are expected to focus on decentra-lisation, job creation in the deprived regions and a change in the Election Law that would allow members of the Armed Forces to vote. Support for the peace process is expected to be among their

demands. Mr. Majali said the coalition would most likely field a candidate for the House speakership position but did not reveal if he himself would



and the people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan ON

HIS MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY



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# Kuwait reportedly hesitant on reform Russia

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's government is besitating to implement economic reforms such as privatisation and cutting the welfare state, an economic consultancy said Saturday.

"It is apparent that the government is still hesitant in taking decisive decisions on economic policy matters," the independent Al Sball Consultancy said in a weekly commen-

Privatisation for example has been one of the government's declared policies since (the 1991 Gulf war) liberation, but nothing practical seems to be happening and all because of illogical administration, political and social complica-

tions," it said: Al Shall, whose director Jassem Al Saadoun is an adviser on economics to parliament, said privatisation was a relatively easy step.

But the government appeared afraid that the process would influence share values on the stock exchange,

It also appeared to be concerned sbout "the impact of selling petrol stations on

Kuwaiti employees."

"We believe that the inability to take a decision or reach a solution for the most simple cases makes it doubtful that the government will be able to take major decisions at the appropriate time concerning major services and oil," he pointed out.

Al Shall said a similar besitation sppbed to plans to lift subsidies on services such as medicine, local telephone calls, fuel, electricity, water and others.

No real policy had been adopted so far to deal with the budget deficit, it said, The government is due to sell its stake in the petrol station network next year as part of a plan to trim its bloated public sector workforce and stimulate the private sector.

It has hinted it may consider allowing some form of private sector participation in larger parts of the oil sector later. The government has said

privatisation, cuts in the generous oil-funded welfare state and encouraging Kuwaitis to forsake the overstaffed public sector for private business are

necessary to cut the deficit and stimulate the moribund private

The government has projected a 1.223 billion dinar (\$4 billion) deficit for 1993/94 and said it would cover this from its Gulf war-depleted reserves. It projects similar sized deficits for the next four years.

Meanwhile, a Knwaiti marketing company said Saturday Kuwaiti firms faced growing foreign competition for personal investment husiness the emirate.

A statement by Al Snbaih International Group announcing an exhibition of Kuwaiti financial services it will stage in December said such services were increasingly sophisti-

can exhibit at this show," said a statement read at a news conference by the company's marketing director, Abdullah Ai Subaih

"Only Kuwaiti companies

"We aim at giving them the chance to exhibit their services away from foreign competition which has intensified lately to attract the same clientele base. Our objective is to show the

level of sophistication this sector bas reached," be pointed

The "first Kuwait money show" from Dec. 6 to 11 aims to attract ordinary members of the public and will be held under the patronage of Finance Minister Nasser Al Rodhan, hc said.

Sheikh Subaih said his company marketed investment

About 25 commercial banks, state investment companies and insurance firms as well as the stock exchange and central bank would be represented at the conference, be said.

"Some of the services to be exhibited involve deposit accounts, currencies, gold, bonds, shares, mutual funds, real estate portfolios, life and civil liability insurance and time share products," he said.

Sbeikb Suhaih said be wanted to boost public awareness of a growing range of Kuwaiti investment products. These were being created to fulfil opportunities flowing from a gradual liberalisation of the banking system and a mod-est revival in the stock ex-

Both development have been spurred by progress towards a settlement of an 11year-old bad debt problem stemming from the 1982 collapse of the informal bourse and commercial losses caused by Iraq's 1990-91 occupation.

The government is also in the process of selling off stakes in at least 66 local companies to try to stimulate the stagnant private sector of the economy.

Over the years Kuwaitis. have salted away billions of dinars in securities in the industrialised world, much of it through foreign investment companies. Post-war worries about Iraq have encouraged the flight overseas.

State-owned Kuwait Foreign Contracting and Trading Company, in a bid to stimulate the domestic investment mar-. ket, is due shortly to launch a 25 million dinar (\$82 million) fund that would for the first time enbable foreign residents to invest in the Kuwait stock exchange.

Sheikh Suoaih said he expected more such funds would be launched in coming months.

# to keep restrictions on foreign banking

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russia intends to restrict foreign banking activity for up to three more years to protect the country's domestic banking industry from large Western competitors. Interfax News Agency has said.

Finance Minister Boris Fyodorov published a statement saying his ministry would uphold current restrictions on granting licenses to foreign banks and disagreed with the central bank's policy of boosting the number of licenses, the report said.

Several senior government officials including First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar agreed on the need to limit foreign banking operations in Russia which could have 'dangerous consequences' if allowed to expand unchecked, Interfax said.

"Hasty access for foreign banks, which have vast experience and resources, could leave Russian banks in an unequal position," the report

Top Russian financial officisls sgreed foreign banks should hold no more than 12 per cent of all statutory capital in the commercial hanking sector, it added.

In an interview with the government daily Izvestia, Mr. Gaidar stated that the government was looking at "supplementary steps" to regulate foreign banking activity in

He said discussion in the government on giving foreign banks greater access to the Russian hanking sector was very delicate and important for the national economy" but added he opposed quickly lifting all restrictions on foreign

The newspaper said five more foreign banks, including Citibank and Chase Manhattan, were recently awarded licenses to operate in Russia,

Environmental groups wel-

comed the three Malaysian-cent

enters minefield with jobs blueprint BRUSSELS (R) - Chances of bow this will all work out."

**EC** commission

the European Commission, the European Community's (EC's) executive, producing a workable plan to boost the bloc's 12 economies and create 20 million jobs within six years seem to be fading.

A synopsis of a commission policy document, due to be handed to EC leaders at a summit next month, calls for annual economic growth of 3.5 per cent, major public spending on road, rail, energy and telecommunications networks, more part-time work, capped wages rises and tax changes to halve the bloc's johiess rate to five per cent by the end of the

"The white paper (policy document) exercise is very risky because it ohliges us to enter highly political terri-tory," Pascal Lamy, chief aide to Commission President Jacques Delors, told a seminar on the hioc's economic and jobs Another commission offi-

eisl, who declined to be. named, put it even more suc-cinctly. "At the end of the day it is very bard to put across to people the concept that they should accept a cut in their standard of living," the source said. "It is very difficult to see

Graham Bishop, economist at finance bouse Salomon Brothers in London, welcomed fewer restrictions on part-time working but said it should not

be at the cost of full-time jobs. "Employers need the flexibility of part-timers. What they do not need is the burden of turning one job into two,"

"That would not improve efficiency or competitivity," he said, adding that policing it would be impossible and making it sttractive economically to both employers and employees would be extremely

The commission has suggested that one way of paying for both the reduction in employment taxes needed to persuade firms to compensate workers for loss of income would be to tax polluters, energy and capital more heavily. Commission sources, however, accepted that proposals to tax the carbon content

of fuel and spply a blanket withholding tax on savings and investment income bad scant political backing. EC Employment Commis-

sioner Padirag Flynn has proposed penslising overtime work to create more jobs.

## Belarus leaders clash over economic reforms

MINSK (R) — Belarussian leader Stanislav Shushkevich accused bis conservative prime minister Friday o. blocking reforms and called for major changes to the former Soviet republic's government.

Prime Minister Vladislav Kebich rejected the allegations, saying he stood for "evolutionary reforms" to overturn seven decades of communist economics.

Mr. Shushkevich, who has heenleading calls for parliamentary elections next year, called for privatisation of twothirds of the state-dominated economy. He also said Belarus had to maintain a joint financial system with neighbouring Russia.

"The government is making no effort to launch market... referms," he told parliament. help Belarus cope better with reforms.

of old lines of management." Mr. Shushkevich, chairman of parliament, has been waging virtually a single-handed hattle against Mr. Kebich and parliament in favour of the fast-track reforms under way in Russia

for more than a year. But be has also denounced parliament's decision earlier this year to form a political and military alliance with Moscow rather than stay neutral like

Opposition parties earlier this week called for the government's resignation and hundreds of their supporters staged noisy demonstrations in front of parliament.

Mr. Sbushkevich said forcing a common financial system with Russia would generate spin-offs in investment and

Rouble crashes as Uzbeks get ready for new money

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (R) Soviet-era ronbles crashed against the dollar in the Central Asian state of Uzbekistan Saturday as people prepared for the launch of a new tran-

sitional currency,
The issue of the interim currency, the sum, is a first step by this former Soviet republic of 22 million people towards monetary independence from Russia, severing ties which bound the Uzbeks to Moscow through 70 years of communis

Uzbekistan announced Friday that the sum will be used in tandem with old roubles from Monday until a fully fledged national currency is introduced at an unspecified future date. Officials newspapers Satur-

day said that 5,000 and 10,000

rouble notes were to be re-

moved from circulation, caus-

minations and a corresponding plunge in value. The newspapers did not say when the notes will be declared void. Traders at. Tashkent's hig-

ing a rush to dump these deno-

gest open-air market were offering 15,000 to 18,000 pre-1993 roubles per U.S. dollar. On Friday the rate was 8,000 to the dollar, and one week ago it was 4,000. The traders were also eager

to buy Russian roubles printed since the beginning of this year, which look different from the pre-1993 rouble. Some offered 12 "old" roubles for

"This rouble is falling every half bour," said an Uzbek stu-

Russia declared all pre-1993 banknotes invalid on its territory in July in a move tantamount to the introduction of its own national currency, which is now worth 1,180 to the dollar. Old roubles have continued to circulate in a number

of former Soviet republics.

Many Uzbek sbops closed Saturday, free market prices skyrocketed and hundreds of people stood in queues outside savings banks hoping to de-posit their 5,000 and 10,000

Bread prices at the market rose to 500 roubles a loaf, up from 150 roubles early this week. Meat cost 10,000 roubles a kilogramme, up from 2,500, and cabbages were going for 500 roubles each, against 250 roubles early this

Wages have not been raised to keep pace with inflation."

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 14. 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Lots of people will be glad to know that Mercury goes direct today with the Moon in Sagittarius conjuncting Mars, so set up your appointments with the right people and get down to business

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You are apt to be too concerned with the purely materialistic aspects of your everyday affairs now and try to consider motivations more deeply. TAURUS: (April 20 to Msy 20)

You have some personal goals that seem to be taking a long while to make progress towards securing but take them in your stride and don't force. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have some conditions you are trying to get out from under but it is not as easy nor will it

happen as quickly as you hope so be patient. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 10 July 21) Think shout the various aspects of your personal wishes and the problems with which you have 10 contend and don't force

any issues now. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) This is certainly not the day to take up any reconciliations of some differences you have with anyone who operates with you in the outside world.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) There are some new in which you wish to

THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth V. Holden

become a part but to engage in them now to the extent of com-mitting yourself would be a mis-

LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-ber 22) Your knowledge of busi-ness matters is not sufficient to rightly and efficiently handle the issues now facing you so delve more deeply into correct sources. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You are just as fixed in your standpoint as an associate you are trying to do what you want so it will not be easy to persuade that person. SAGITTARHUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have all kinds of spparent blockages in the way of doing and tasks or

rendering any service which you now have in your consciousness CAPRICORN; (December 22 to January 20) There are many ple-asures in which to engage but its necessary that you go along with them graciously and easily if they are to be satisfactory.

AQUARTUS: (Janoary 21 to February 19) Consider well matters at your residence and make a special snempt at not saying or doing anything to which your own family could take exception. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Show your ability at smoothing the ruffled feathers of an outside ally who is having a difficult time and is quite moody and you are helpful,

# Malaysian finance minister presents 'sorcerer's budget'

KUALA LUMPUR (R) - said one Asian diplomat. Malaysia's finance minister bas presented a budget for 1994 that is almost fiscal sorcery cutting taxes, increasing spending while halancing the books, officials and analaysts bave

"It's a remarkable achievement," said Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad after Anwar Ibrahim announced that the 1993 national budget had been balanced for the first. time in the history of independent Malaysia and 1994's would show a negligible de-

"It's a hit of financial sorcery that can only happen when you get eight per cent growth for five or six consecutive years,"

The finance ministry has projected that Malaysia's gross domestic product would grow at least 8.0 per cent in 1993 and 8.2 per cent in 1994, or about the same pace it bas been galloping at since 1988.

The current account surplus in the halance of payments is expected to strengthen to 1.5 billion ringgit in 1994 (\$590 million) from 511 million (\$290 million) this year — the first

surplus in four years. The budget cuts company income taxes to 32 per cent in 1994 and to 30 per cent in 1995, increases spending on infrastructure projects by 16 per cent, and reduces import

sumer items. The government last month announced that it was setting up a watchdog body to make sure that retailers pass on the cuts in import duties to consumers to keep inflation in

The finance ministry said inflation would ease to 3.8 per cent this year and 3.5 per cent in 1994 from 4.7 per cent last

But with unemployment at three per cent of the workforce. Malaysia basically is in

full employment, and must worry about an overheating economy, Mr. Anwar said. "Inflation continues to be of concern in view of the tight

duties on more than 500 con- labour situation, the pressure own impetus," the Federation employees. on wages and increase in of Malaysian Manufacturers aggregate demand," he said.

The president of the Malayan Investors Association 2.H.S. Lim said the corporate tax cuts could save between 500 million and one billion ringgit (\$195-\$390 million) forcompanies on the Kuala Lum-

pur Stock Exchange (KLSE). The KLSE has been one of the world's best performing exchanges. Its composite index has jumped more than 50 per cent from 632.83 at the beginning of the year to 971.99 st

the close of trading last month. "The cautious budget provides breathing space for eco-nomic activity to move at its

(FMM) said. The hudget "attempted to take care of nearly every sector, albeit there bas not been many goodies for the manufacturing sector," the FMM said in a statement, adding that it was targetted more for the common man than previous

Mr. Anwar announced a 1.4 billion ringgit plan (\$550 million) to increase low-cost housing for the poor and said lowincome wage earners would be

entitled to tax rebates. Labour unions and women's groups applauded the tax breaks for employers who pro-

vide child care centres for their

reduction in the price of unleaded petrol and the duty exemption on imported catalytic converters, which are used to control automobile emis-

Mr. Anwar reduced the petroleum income tax to 40 per cent from 45 per cent to stimulate the oil industry. 'The reduction is timely,"

the state-owned Petronas oil company said in a statement. We are now looking at a less hullish oil price prospect, at least in the next five to 10 years, compared to the outlook during the 1980s."

### Peanuts







## **Andy Capp**





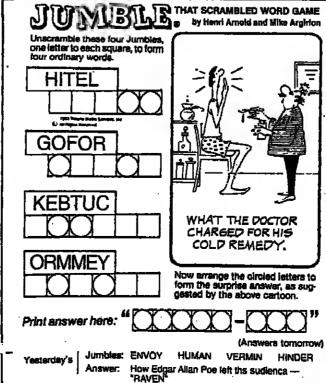


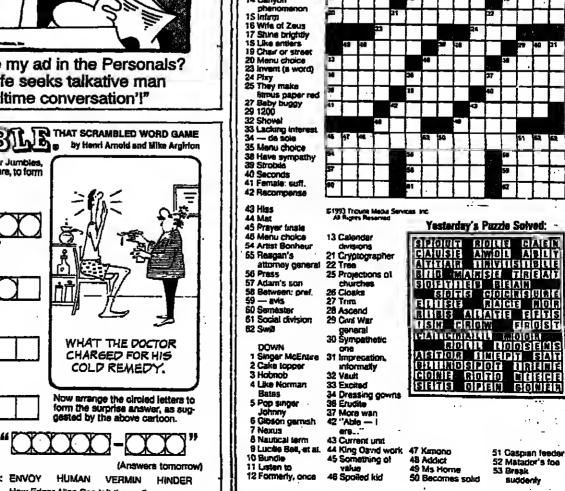
### Mutt'n'Jeff





"Did you see my ad in the Personals? Lonely wife seeks talkative man for mealtime conversation'!"





# Albania seeks UAE support for oil reforms

ABU DHABI (R) — Albania, Europe's poorest nation, has asked the United Arab Emirates for cash and expertise to develop its oil sector crippled by docades of communism.

n

Deputy prime minister for sconomic reforms Bashkin Kolinku has said that Albania was preparing to offer offshore exploration concessions to foreign firms and wanted to develop associated gas produc-

We need their (UAE) help in rebuilding gas and pet-roleum fields and coinvestment," he told Reuters in Abu Dhabi, where he met UAE Oil Minister Yousuf Bin Omeir Bin Yousuf.

Mr. Kopliku, who was the first Albanian government minister to visit the Gulf Arab state, said he asked for soft loans and technology from the UAE to develop the oil sector. He said Albania was prepar-

tring to divide its anshore oil-fields in the south of the country into plots and invite concession agreements from foreign

companies.
Mr. Kopliku said Albania was trying to attract investments under a law passed last week that allows foreigners to invest on equal terms with Albanians. Investors now have the freedom to transfer capital out of the country in any convertible currency.

Former regulations, which lacked proper legal guarantees, came into effect in August 1992, less than two years after Albania ended four decades of communist rule.

"We have some gas produc-tion in the south, but there are hopes that we develop gas. We are looking at... the optimum way of heating Albania — gas, liquid gas or kerosene," he said.

Albania's oil production eaked in 1974 with 18.2 million barrels per year but fell to 4.03 million barrels in 1992 just half the oil produced every day by the world's largest producer, Saudi Arabia. Mr. Kopliku said current

production was 600,000 tonnes per year (4.36 million barrels). all of it from onshore fields. It has granted offshore concessions on its Adriatic coast to five Western oil firms including companies from Germany, the United States and Italy, he

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET ISING BANK CENTER ANGUR - EMPELEANI TELEPHONE: 660170 / 663170 KET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 13/11/1993

| CONSTRUCT AND  | VOLUME<br>10     | PRICE           | PRICE           | PRICE             |
|--|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| ARAB BANK  |                  | -               | -               |                   |
| JORDAN MATTEMAL BANK   |                  | 182.500         |                 |                   |
| CALIND APPRAIS BANK  | 6,160<br>322,469 | 6.300<br>32.900 | 6.150<br>33.340 | 6. JSQ<br>33. 340 |
| BARK OF JOSEPH   | 438              | 4.410           | 4.360           | 4.380             |
| WINDLE BAST THVESTHERS SAME.   | 970              | 1.940           | 1.940           | 1.540             |
| INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK  | 107,600          | 4.000           | 4.000           | 4.000             |
| THE BOUSTING BANK .  | 16,510           | 6.700           | 6.700           |                   |
| JOHDAN KIMAIT BANK   | 22.074           | 3,160           |                 |                   |
| ARAN JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK  | 000              | 4. D4D          |                 | 4-000             |
| MIT BLIGH EAVINGS INVESTMENT FOR MORE IN   | 3,480            | 4.350           | 4.360           |                   |
| WHEN BUIL TO INVESTMENT AND ROUTING  | 313              | 4,350           | 4.230           |                   |
| ARLTHURING THAT THAT INCH AND THE PARTY OF T | 22,1/3           | 2.500           | 1.770<br>2.470  |                   |
| JUNDAN INCOMANCE   | 770              | 3.900           | 3.850           |                   |
| JURDAN FRANCE THEOREMENT   | 3,847            | 3.420           |                 |                   |
| MOLY LAND THEOPRICE  | . 1, 257         | 3.300           |                 | 3.150             |
| JORDANIAN PLACINIC PONES   | 20, 190          | 3.290           |                 |                   |
| THREE DISTRICT SUBCTRUCTY  | 6,234            | 1.240           | 1.240           | 1,340             |
| ARAS INTERNATIONAL NOTELE  | 4,800            | 5-000           |                 | 4.800             |
| JORDAN TOURISM & STA COMPLEX   | 21,234           | 1.190           | 1,190           | 1.310             |
| PATTOWNL PORTFOLIO BECOMITTEE  | 6,643            | 4.040           | 4.000           |                   |
| NAMES AND A SOCIAL TRANSPORT TRANSPORT PRODUCT A THE PRODUCT A STATE OF THE PRODUCT A STATE OF THE PRODUCT A STATE OF THE PRODUCT AS A STATE OF THE  | . 263            | 1.010           |                 | 14.600            |
| OMITAD HIDDER REEL & COMMODORS HOLSES  | 42.540           | 2.170           | 3.190           | 3.170             |
| ARAR INTER. FOR INVESTMENT 6 MOUCETTON   | 3,387            | 3.650           | 3.650           | 3.660             |
| JORGAN TORACCO & CIGARETTES  | 252              | 22.000          |                 |                   |
| THE JOSPAN CEMENT PACTORIES  | 119,401          | 3.050           |                 |                   |
| SORDAM PERSONAUM BEFTMANY  | 267              | 9.950           | Q. BOO          | 9. 900            |
| THE THEORY AND COMMENCES. A RESIDENCE.   | 267<br>2,900     | 7 700           | 7,100           | 7.500             |
| ARAB TEARINGCENTICAL HONOPACTURING.  | 67,03#           | 8.450           | 8,450           |                   |
| PONDYM CHUNIC IMPORTATES   | 4,772            | 7.400           |                 |                   |
| THE TORONS STREET INTERPRETARING   | 185              | 3.720           |                 |                   |
| NATA INDUSTRIES  | 246              | 3.360           |                 |                   |
| DAN AL DANA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT   | 15,883<br>34,532 | 16,000          |                 | 0, 450<br>15, 800 |
| ARRE YEVERTHEET & IMPRORATIONAL TRADE  | 10,003           | 3.400           |                 | . 2,380           |
| YAND PINIMIAN JAMESTAL .   | 21,309           | 10.300          |                 | 20,180            |
| ARM PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING   | 161              | 1.690           |                 | 1.610             |
| JORGAN MEDICAL COMPONATION   | 1,470            | 0,440           | 0.420           |                   |
| MATTOMAL STREET INDUSTRY   | 8,160            | S. 150          | 5, 196          | 5. 10G            |
| PRINCEDIATE PATRO-CHEMICAL INCOSTRIES  | 10,416           | 3,500           |                 | 3,340             |
| JOHOAN MOCKHOOK THOOSTRIES   | 3,425            | 3,450           | 2.430           |                   |
| CONTENENT & SELECTION PROPERTY BACKOC  | 34,502           | 1.300           | 1.270           | 1.270             |
| SOUDIST MODE INDESTATES & TAXOD  | 6,850            | 0,410           | . 0.410         | ,0.400            |
| COLUMN MOOD TROUSTAIRE & TAILO   | 6,240            | 8,200           | 5.700           | 3.66D<br>8.140    |
| MATIORAL CREEK & WIRE MANUFACTURING  | 15, 405<br>563   | 3.260           | 3.250           | 3,250             |
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| JORDAN MUNICIPE CO. POR MUNIC. & POOD POOD.  | 713              | 2,440           | 2,400           | 2.440             |
| ONIVERSAL MODERN IPOUSTRIES  | 7, 809           |                 | 5.220           |                   |
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| Eurocurrency Interest Ri | Date: 12/11/1995 |        |        |         |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Currency                 | 1-MTH            | 3 MTHS | 6 MTHS | 12 MTHS |
| U.S. Dollar              | 3.00             | 3.51   | 3.57   | 3.65    |
| Sterling Pound           | 5.75             | 5.62.  | 5.44   | 5.44 .  |
| Deutsche Mark            | 6.25             | 6.12   | 5.81   | 5.43    |
| Swins Franc              | 4.44             | 4.44   | 4,18   | 3.93    |
| French Franc             | 6.80             | 6.71   | 6.31   | 5.75 ·  |
| Jupanese Yen             | 2:45             | 2.31   | 2.15   | 2.09    |
| European Currency Unit   | 7.06             | 6.95   | 6.56   | 6.18    |

| Procions A | taculs   |                    |        | Date: 72 | /11/1993 |
|------------|----------|--------------------|--------|----------|----------|
| Metal      | USD/Ox   | JD/Gm <sup>*</sup> | Metal  | USD/Oz   | JD/Gm    |
| GAId       | 373.45   | 7.35               | Silver | 4.53     | 0.100    |
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| GAId        | 373.45      | 7.35     | Silver | 4.53     | 5 ( 0.100 | <u>,                                     </u> |
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| nutral Hami | e of Jordan | Exchange | Rate   | Bullecin | •         |   |
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|                | Date: 13/11/1993 |          |  |  |  |
|----------------|------------------|----------|--|--|--|
| Currency       | Bid              | . Offer  |  |  |  |
| U.S. Dollar    | 0.6970           | 0.6990   |  |  |  |
| Sterling Pound | 1.0390           | 1.0442   |  |  |  |
| Deptsche Mark  | 0.4132           | . 0.4155 |  |  |  |
| Swim Franc     | 0.4675           | 0.4698   |  |  |  |
| French Franc   | 0.7187           | 0.1193   |  |  |  |
| Spanore Yen    | 0.6587           | 0.6620   |  |  |  |
| Butch Guilder  | 0.3682           | 0.3700   |  |  |  |
| Swedish Kronn  | *****            | 2444     |  |  |  |
| Itelian Lira   | 0.0420           | 0.0422   |  |  |  |
| Belgian Franc  | *****            | ****     |  |  |  |
|                | <del></del>      |          |  |  |  |

| Deliner Convencions | Date     | Date: 13/11/1995 |  |  |  |
|---------------------|----------|------------------|--|--|--|
| Carriery            | Bid      | Offer            |  |  |  |
| Subrain! Diner      | 1.8250   | 1.8520           |  |  |  |
| Lebragas Lica       | 0.039500 | 0.041260         |  |  |  |
| Santi Pjym          | 0.1853   | 0.1250           |  |  |  |
| Kathali Diner       | 2.2260   | 2.3300           |  |  |  |
| Quient Riyel        | 0.1889   | 0.1415           |  |  |  |
| Egyptian Found      | 0.2070   | 0.2240           |  |  |  |
| Outsui Riyai        | 1.7750   | 1.8170           |  |  |  |
| UAR Dirtum          | 0.1220   | 0.1915           |  |  |  |
| Grack Deschara      | 0.2845   | 0.3025           |  |  |  |
| Cyprist Pages       | 1.3515   | 1.3825           |  |  |  |

# Egypt needs more economic reforms

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's central bankers, who not so long ago were scraping every last dollar together, could hardly have dreamt there would come a day when they had too much money at their disposal.

But that is exactly what the lop-sided success of economic reforms have created — a huge, stagnant lake of money that is beginning to leak at the

Economists now fear that without public sector reform and privatisation to help the real economy catch up and provide promising investment opportunities. Egypt could suffer capital flight that will unravel the gains ..

past two years are reversible. The money that came in could go out again and we could face dollarisation again, said Essam Rifaat, editor of the leading economic journal Al Ahram Al Iquisaadi.

"The next six months are a big challenge. Money is ready to invest, it's just looking for the right chance. Not even the right chance, it's looking for any chance at all." he empha-

The reform programme, backed by the International Monetary Fund and the world Bank, started in 1991. Its fiscal and monetary changes have achieved startling success. Structural reforms to the real economy have lagged painfully

## "All the achievements of the **Poll: Most Japanese say**

TOKYO (AP) - The latest call for Japan to open its rice market comes not from a foreign government, but from 62 per

rice market must open

cent of Japanese respondents to a survey.

According to the survey by the Yomiuri, a major daily newspaper 54.2 per cent of respondents to a telephone poll said doing away with the current virtual ban on foreign rice was "inevitable," while eight per cent said it was "absolutely

Fifty-five per cent, up seven percentage points since a similar poll in May, said opening the market would make domestic farming more efficient and competitive, while 39 per cent, down five points, said it would destroy farming families and the cultural values they represent.

The results indicate declining sympathy among Japanese

consumers for rice farmers, many of whom say they would be rumed if cheap foreign rice were allowed to enter Japan. Anti-import groups say Japan is entitled to be self-sufficient in its staple crop, while foreign governments, including the United States, say the near-ban violates free-trade principles. The Yomiuri telephoned 3,000 people nationwide on Oct.

23-24 for the poll, of whom 2,173 responded. Japanese

pollsters customarily do not provide margins of error.

All the capital Egypt oeeds to fund its long-awaited boom and more — some 160 billion Egyptian pounds (\$50 billion) sits in the country's bank vaults piling up interest. Egypt's financial health has

never been sounder. Freed interest and exchange rates have allowed the central bank to build up record foreign exchange reserves of \$14 billion. Government planners who

used to worry about where the next wheat shipment was coming from now chat expansively about how they play the markets with cash

Egypt's once yawning budget deficit is set to drop to 3.5 per cent this financial year, comparing favourably with most of the Western donor

states backing its reforms. But the real economy is entering its third year of slump. Unemployment is chronic and health and education - the "human resources" that development economists now consider key to long-term growth - continue to deteriorate under the weight of

Egypt's population explosion.
The missing element is public sector reform and privatisation. Businessmen say these are the key to creating both investment opportunities and long-term confidence.

Government fears that rapid reform will cause nnemployment and political upheaval are looking it in a vicious and self-perpetuating circle.

Without privatisation, which may include lay-offs, there will be little investment. Without

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investment, there will be no growth and without growth there will be no other jobs for those in the public sector to go

Meanwhile, Cairo's political leadership, with little experience of the marketplace, talks proudly of the stable pound and the money that has poured in as a permanent and natural feature of Egypt's new economic policies rather than the specific product of high in-

terest rates that may not last. Planners dispute the idea that the money inflows are volatile or looking for invest-ment: "Most of this is savings come home. Depositors do not want to play the stock mar-ket," said one official.

Bot signs are that the money is restless and ready to move. Egypt's two public share flotations this year. By Misr Chemicals Company and Commercial loternational Bank (CIB), were hugely oversub-scribed, CIB raised over \$110 million in a 10-day share offer in August. Cairo's stock market has

risen by nearly 30 per cent over the past 18 months but is still woefully incapable of channelling large sums of money into productive industries. The 13 brokers trade a few million ponnds (dollars) worth of share a week.

Traders say they cannot explain a 10 per cent rise in gold this year after it stayed stable for years.

Developers report that land speculation is pushing prices of luxury holiday apartments up by up to 50 per ceot per year.

# Saudi Arabia may privatise telephones

DUBAI (R) - Saudi Arabia is studying the possibility of privatising its telephone company, Industry Minister Abdul Aziz Al Zamel was quoted

Saturday as saying.
The United Arah Emirates newspaper Al Khaleej said Sheikh Zamel was speaking in an interview during the meeting in Abu Dhabi earlier this week of Gulf Arab industry

"He (Zamel) said there might be a trend towards privatising some of the public sector services pointing out that there are initial studies to privatise the Sandi telephone company owned by the government." the newspapers said.

The newspaper did not provide any direct quotes by Sheikh Zamel, nor did the minister give any other details on the possibility of privatising the state-owned Saudi Tele-

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil producer and exporter, which over the last few vears has been running a budget deficit, is encouraging a bigger role by the private sec-tor as well as joint ventures with foreign partners. Western media reports have

recently focused on a mushrooming deficit in the kingdom to finance massive defence costs, subsidies, welfare payments and foreign aid at a time of increasing uncertainty about oil revenue prosSaudi Arabia has strongly denied press reports of financial difficulties.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) figures show that although the government budgeted to cut costs by 28 per cent and bring the deficit to about \$4 billion in 1992, the actual deficit for the year reached almost \$11 billion. It is budgeting for a \$3.5 billion deficit in 1993.

IMF forecasts indicate that unless changes are introduced, state fioances will weaken further in 1994 and 1995, even if oil revenues rise slightly.

Economists say oil revenues are currently running at about \$3 billion a month, well below peaks of over \$4 billion a month in 1992. They say this however remains a massive in-



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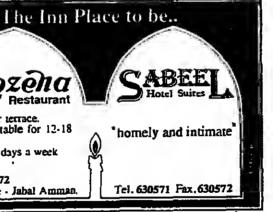
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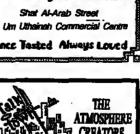
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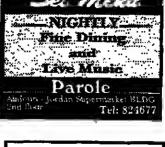


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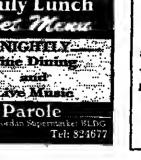








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7-vear-old brings

SAN FRANCISCO (R) - A seven-year-old boy brought a loaded 9mm semiautomatic

pistol to class in his knapsack

at a San Francisco elementary

school, officials said. The

second-grade student at Com-

modore Stockton Elementary

School boasted to companions

during morning recess Thursday that he had a gun in his backpack, according to police officer David Boyett, who was

called to the school. Other children alerted teachers, who

found the gun, locked it in the principal's closet and called police. Officer Boyett said one

bullet was io the chamber and seven bullets were in the gun's magazine. If the safety catch

had been knocked off and the

trigger pulled, eight shots could have been fired, he said.

"Thank God, no one was hurt," he said. Police are in-

vestigating how the gun found its way into the knapsack.

News reports quoted school officials as saying the gun was

believed to belong to a relative of the child, whose name was not released. School principal

Helen Chin said the child nev-

er took the gun out of the

backpack, no one was hurt and

there was no danger to the 740

children at the school.

gun to school in knapsack

# Sri Lankan troops reinforce besieged northern military base

an reinforcements linked up with troops defending a strategic military base besieged by Tamil rebels in the northern Jaffna peninsula Saturday, a military spokesman said.

Some 250 soldiers and sailors have been killed and 150 are missing according to military sources after three days of heavy fighting at the Ponneryn Camp, scene of the army's worst setback in the decade-loog war with separat-

The reinforcements have linked up with a group of about 700 people," said military spokesman Brigadier Nalin Angammana. He said they were looking for a second group of troops at the camp. Brig. Angammana said the landing had not met with any resistance from the rebel Liheration Tigers of Tamil Eclam (LTTE).

"It was all quiet. It looks like

area," Brig Angammana said. He said fighting had sub-

sided around the camp on the shores of the Jaffna lagoon. "Once the reinforcements have stabilised we will send more in," he said

Earlier Saturday, about 100 troops landed by sea and air at Pooneryn, Brig. Angammana said the first group landed by sea west of Pooneryn and set up a beachhead. The others would now follow he said about 1,400 men were defeoding

Reinforcements could not be sent earlier because of fierce rehel resistance and had

The Defence Ministry said troops heat hack three attempts to penetrate defer into the base Friday oight. "Technical sources indicate that the LTTE... has lost about 400 cadres up to now, which includes some senior cadres."

imagioation," the state-owned Daily News quoted a military

official as saying. Defence analysts said the fall of Pooneryn could give the rehels unhindered access across the lagoon to the main-land from their stronghold in

the peninsula. More than 30,000 people have been killed in the conflict since 1983. Political analysts say the war cannot be won militarily and a political solution must be negotiated. Several attempts at peace talks, the last in 1990, have

failed and suspicion and mistrust has built up oo both sides. The Tigers, with an estimated fighting strength of be-tween 5,000 and 10,000, control much of the north where most of the Tamils live. The army is stronger in the east of the island, which has a mixed

population of Tamils, Sinhalese and Muslims.

The ministry said army and navy casualties could be given only when the situation was under complete control. Rebel radio said 150 Tigers

had been killed.

The LTTE has been fighting since 1983 for a separate state in the north and east for the island's 2.5 million Tamils. who say they face discriminatioo from the majority Sinhalese io the Sri Lanka's 17 million population.

The statement said 15 rebels were killed during an attack on another northern base, Palaly Camp, Friday night. Military sources said five soldiers died and 40 people, including some civilians, were woonded

Military sources said the Tigers had captured four patrol boats, a tank, other heavy weapons and ammunition at

"Let alone the loss of life, the weaponry that would have fallen to the Tigers boggles the

# Unwanted patients marooned by Bosnian fighting

SARAJEVO (R) — A Croat and Serb offensive marooned hundreds of onwanted children, meotal patients and bedridden sick in two Muslim front line hospitals in central Bosnia Saturday.

Canadian U.N. peacekeep-ers said medical staff had stopped work and that no one had offered refuge to the patients at Fojnica and Bakovici, although the Muslim-led Bosnian army had begun to evacu-ate its civilians during the

might.

With temperatures plunging in the region, the main U.N. aid agency reported desperate conditions in the hesieged Muslim town of Olovo where a few hundred civilian survivors have received no outside food or aid for two months.

The plight of the communities symbolised the suffering of civilian populations in central Bosnia as the second winter of the civil war began to take serious grip and fighting for territory continued.

U.N. aid distributioo has been at a standstill in the region since a Danish driver was killed three weeks ago, although the Bosnian and Croatian governments agreed Friday to allow two relief convoys to cross hattle zones.

Caoadiao aod Daoish peacekeepers equipped with armour and infantry were put on alert Saturday morning to aid the Fojnica and Bakovici hospitals if necessary.

There are 576 patients trapped io the hospitals five kilometres apart in freezing mountains west of Sarajevo. They are on the front line of a northward offensive laun-

ched by Bosnian Croats with Serb help to secure links with Croat-held Vitez and Kiseljak. Mortar bombs and shells have exploded this week in the grounds of the Bakovici Hospital, trapped in a valley be-tween the two sides, despite U.N. efforts to protect it.

Canadian army Captain George Petrolekas told repor-



board a U.N. flight out of Sarajevo. (AFP photo)

ters in nearby Visoko: "The only real option is to get the belligerents to stop firing at the goddam thiog."
Only 200 of the inmates of

the two hospitals can walk. The others are bedridden or in wheelchairs or dying. Sixty of the total are children.

The United Nations is also trying to protect 135 Croat: civilians cowering in a base-ment in Fojnica in fear of reprisals hy Muslims who still control the town.

At Olovo, 60 kilometres northeast of Fojnica, the Un-ited Nations High Commis-sioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said Serb bombardments had forced all but a few hundred of the 5,000 pre-war population to flee.

Some 300 of the inhabitants told a UNHCR team which visited Olovo Thursday that they escaped there from the surrounding area after looting and raping by marauding Bos-

"The refugees were extremely stressed and repeatedly broke down in tears as they told their tales," a UNHCR spokesman said. "We had no way of independently verifying reports of atrocities bot they all told similar and consisteot stor-Io Sarajevo, the United Na-

tions feared a new confronta-tion between Muslim and Serh forces oo Mount Igman, which overlooks the Bosnian capital. U.N. spokesman Idesbaid Van Biesehroeck said the problem was caused by Mushims moving their positions too

close to Serb lines. "The Serhs have warned that they could react with cannon fire, artillery and mortars," he added,

A small U.N. peacekeeping force is stationed between the two sides on the mountain, which was a main Muslim supply route into Sarajevo until Serbs captured it during the

Russian envoy Italy Churkin met members of the Bosnian leadership in Sarajevo to discuss ways of reviving peace talks between the three sides in

#### **Boston police** make arrest in old murder case

BOSTON (AP) — A man wanted for a slaving # at occurred nearly 25 years ago was arrested after detectives located him by playing with combinations of names be was known to use. Earl J. Clark, 49, was arrested Wednesday in Dayton, Ohio, where he had lived for the past 15 years. He had been using the name Stacey E. Griffin for the past 24 years, since soon after the Feb. 22, 1969, killing of Carl Carrethers. Detective Lt. Stepheo Murray said two factors led to finding Mr. Clark.
"We started to play alphabet
sonp with the different names he was known to use. His nickname was Stacey and his mother's name was Griffin. We tried different combinations of the name in every state. in the country," he said. Lt. Murray said the "cold case" squad, which specialises in long-unsolved murders, also found out Mr. Clark had served in the military and was able to get a set of his finger prints from the Defence Department. The prints matched with the Stacey E. Griffin in Dayton. Mr. Clark was a suspect from the beginning in the death of Mr. Carrethers, 24, said Capt. Edward J. McNeal ly, homicide unit commander.

#### Wedding surprise thwarted at . Canadian border

CO

ST STEPHEN, New Brunswick (R) - Royce Smith's hope of surprising his girlfriend hope of surprising his girimeno with a wedding proposal was derailed at the Canadian bounder when customs officials seized his hidden engagement ring. Mr. Smith, of Gardiner, Maine, was forced to pop the question to his tearful fiances. with a border guard watching.

Then he was told it would cost him \$730 in penalties and duties to get the ring back. Mr.
Smith was corssing the border to
last week from Calais, Maine,
with his girlfriend Alisoo Teed,
a Canadian citizen, when cut
toms officials searched the cut and discovered the \$1,400 and taire hidden in a bag. More smith said Thursday be tried to explain to the guard that the had not declared the ring at the border because he intended the border because he intended with surprise Teed. "(A proposal) supposed to be something." you'll remember for the rest dir you'll remember for the rest of your life," said Mr. Smith "We'll remember this, but at the way we might want to

MOSCOW (R) — A private 200 in the Russian city Chelyabinsk has run so short

# **Bhutto nominee wins Pakistani presidential vote**

ISLAMABAD (R) - Legislators elected Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's nominee, Foreign Minister Farooq Leghari, as Pakistan's new president Saturday with an overwhelming majority.

Initial counting in the com-plicated voting system gave Mr. Leghari 275.5 votes to 167 for his opponent, acting President Wasim Sajjad, the candidate of Ms. Bhutto's arch-rival and predecessor Nawaz Sharif. "This is an hour of great victory," a jubilant Bhutto told reporters after voting hy the electoral college of legislators from the National Assembly

(lower house), Senate and four provincial assemblies. The election of Mr. Leghari as president for five years is a vindication of our struggle to establish democracy and return stability to the country," Ms. Bhutto said.

The voting had been the first real test of strength for Ms. Bhutto's fledgling coalition government that took office last month after her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) emerged as the largest party in fiercely fought general elections.

Results from the four provincial assemblies were still being calculated but in the southern province of Sind, Mr. Leghari won 39 votes to 1.5 for

Mr. Sajjad. In Punjah, initial results showed the foreign minister had taken a lead of 10 votes while in Baluchistan the voting ended in a dead heat, officials said. Mr. Sajjad scrapped to a win in the North West Frontier Province. Each province has 43

Empowered to dissolve parliament, the president is one of the informal triumvirate, with the prime minister and army chief, that runs the country.

Diplomats say Ms. Bhutto asked the widely respected deputy leader of the PPP to run for president to ensure her president to ensure her government, Pakistan's third in five years, has a better chance of completing its fiveyear term.

The Oxford-educated Leghari, a feudal and tribal leader from the fringes of law-less Baluchistan, told Renters Friday he would put party politics behind him and act as an

impartial head of state, ready to seek consensus with the opposition and to guard his

own powers. "I would reach ont if I'm elected to all political forces, all interest groups, all citizens. and hring them together to work for Pakistan," Mr. Leghari said. "No one should be excluded from that."

Mr. Leghari, 53, is Ms. Bhntto's most trusted confidant and a protege of her father, Pakistan's first popularelected Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhotto. He became the leading cootender after four other candidates pulled out late Thursday.

Legislators voted in the old National Assembly Hall, dusted off for the session after the parliament building was gutted by fire Tuesday. Ms. Bhutto dismissed fears

that a PPP president and prime minister would result in an authoritarian administration. . "The PPP has always fought

against repression," she said.
"We expect Farooq Leghari to be as good as anyone and to be impartial," said Sartaj Aziz, secretary general of Sharif's Pakistan Mnslim Leagoç

Mr. Leghari said he would welcome an attempt by the government to remove the martial law-era constitution amendment that empowers the president to dismiss a govern-

The previous president, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, twice exercised the president's controversial power to dissolve parliament — once to sack Ms.

Bhutto after just 20 months in
office in 1990 and again in
April to get rid of Mr. Sharif's

"This sword of Damocles hanging over the parliament of presidential dissolution must be removed," said Mr. Leghari, who spent a total of four years in prison during the 1977-88 rule as president of General Mohammad Zia-Ul-

Haq.
"We've had the office of president used to subvert the constitution, to unsettle government," Mr. Leghari said.
"The time has come for stability, for political unity and economic development.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Haiti minister challenges army's power

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (R) - Haitian Defence Minister Jean Beliotte told intransigent army officers he had legitimate power and challenged them to have him arrested, as they had threatened. Responding to a letter in which the army's chief of staff threatened Mr. Beliotte with "prison for 10 days starting the day you leave your post," the defence minister shot back, saying he was the legitimate boss. "I must remind you that you are not the chief of a military government and I am not the defence minister in your military government," Mr. Beliotte wrote in a letter to army leader Lientenant-General Raoul Cedras. "Tomorrow you can arrest me... hut remember I have and always will have legality," Mr. Beliotte said in the letter, which was read out oo Haitian radio. In correspondence dated Nov. 8, army hardliner Brigadier General Philippe Biamby called the retired general a "coward" and "a permanent threat to the institution." He also accused Mr. Beliotte of "having a plan to destruct the armed forces."

### **Actor River Phoenix 'died from drugs'**

LOS ANGELES (R) - Actor River Phoenix had lethal levels of cocaine and morphine in his body when he died after collapsing outside a Hollywood nightcluh last month, a coroner's spokesman said Friday. Scott Carrier said Phoenix, who had previously been known as a clean living, strict vegetarian, died of "acute multiple drug intoxications." "The manner of death is ruled as accidental," said Mr. Carrier, spokesman for the Los Angeles Couoty Coroner's office. Mr. Cerrier said the young star's body also contained valium and marijuana. Phoenix, 23. who first received public acclaim in 1986 in the coming-of-age movie, Stand By Me, and who received an Academy Award nomination for his work io the 1988 film, Running On Empty, collapsed outside the Viper room nightcluh shortly after midnight on Oct. 31 and died in a hospital less than an hour later. Phoenix was attending a Halloween party at the popular cluh, which is part-owned by actor Johnny Depp and is frequented by young Hollywood stars, when he started having massive seizures, according to police reports.

### China warns Tajwan on hijackers

BEIJING (AFP) — The Chioese government warned Saturday that Taiwan would pay "serious consequences" unless it changed its policy and returned the hijackers of seven planes to the island since April. The State Council's Taiwao Affairs Office, in a statement read on state-run television, said Taiwan's policy of holding on to hijackers for trial violated agreements and endangered air travellers, including those from Taiwan. Unless Taiwan changed the policy, it said, "the Taiwan authorities would be held responsible for all the x rious consequences arising from them." Separately, Chinese police said the hijackers of the seventh plane were "deht dodgers," and rejected their claims of having joined the 1989 pro-democracy movement. "Sources from the Public Security Ministry said that the hijackers fled to Taiwan in order to escape from dehts and their own financial calamities on the mainland," the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

### Police seek to scare voters — Mandela

OHLANGE, South Africa (R) - ANC leader Nelson Mandela alleged Saturday police were seeking to scare away non-white voters in South Africa's first all-race poll in April. Mr. Mandela, kicking off campaigning in volatile Natal province, told several thousand supporters gathered at a dusty football ground that President F.W. De Klerk and the Internal Stability Unit (ISU) riot police were waging war against them. "Although Mr. De Klerk is in discussions with us be is actually waging a war against our people," Mr. Mandela said at a rally in a poor squatter area 20 kilometres north of Durban. "It is a unit which wages war against our people. The purpose of the iSU is to frighteo hlacks and Indians away from the poll," the African National Congress (ANC) leader added. The ANC

has ofteo accused police of racism and abuses against blacks, Mr. Mandela said Saturday the ANC would demand the unit he withdrawn from black townships and replaced by black

### Anti-siege protest paralyses Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) - A protest strike against an army siege of Kashmir's holiest mosque here paralysed normal activity in the northern Indian state for the third straight day Saturday, residents said. Cars, private buses and cargo haulers remained off the streets in Srinagar, and shops and marketplaces shot down in line with the general strike called by the all-party Kashmir Freedom conference, the residents said. The conference, a forum of 27 militant and political parties opposed to Indian rule over Kashmir, is also spearheading a drive against the siege of the Hazratbal Shrine by Indian army and paramilitary troops that began Oct. 15. Police said a curfew clamped on this state summer capital, as well as in the southern Kashmiri district of Shopian and Anantnag, was lifted Saturday to enable people to stock up on food and other

### Russia plans new security unit

MOSCOW (R) - Russia's Security Ministry is proposing to create a special oew unit to counter the activities of extremist groups posing as political parties, a senior official said Saturday. "In the anti-terrorism department we propose to create a new unit whose duties would include detecting, preventing and suppressing the anti-constitutional activity of extremist groups posing as political parties and social movements," First Deputy Security Minister Sergei Stepashin said. He told the newspaper Rossiiskaya Gazeta in an interview that President Boris Yeltsin had personally underlined the importance of improving intelligence on extremist groups. Mr. Stepashin said there would be changes to the work of the Security Ministry — formerly the KGB security police — but no "purge" of its employees. The ministry's role has come under close scrutiny in recent months. Its former head. Viktor Barannikov, was sacked by Mr. Yeltsin in July and has since beeo jailed as an alleged leader of an armed revolt against the president in October.

### Berlin rail line reopens

BERLIN (R) - Berlin's oldest underground rail line, divided for three decades by Europe's East-West split, was reopened Saturday at a ceremony directly beceath the one-time death strip where the Berlin Wall has stood. The U-2 line, which linked three districts in the East with three in the West when it opened in 1902, was severed when East German Communist authorities built the Berlin Wall in 1961. Its reopening was feted with free beer and a hrass band at an underground ceremony on the rehuilt Potsdamer Platz Platform, where Mayor Eberhard Diepgen said the line would help reunited Berlin grow back together. "It is more than just a transporta-tion link. This will bring the people East and West closer to each other," Mr. Diepgen said. Stretching from the Olympic Stadium in far Western Berlin to the leafy oortheastern section of Pankow, the U-2 runs directly past the spot in the city centre where Hitler had his bunker. Badly damaged io World War II by allied bombs and fleeing Nazis, the line was hastily rebuilt after the war.

### India road accident kills 14

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 14 people were killed and 67 injured Saturday in two separate hus crashes near the small Indian town of Ramban in northern Kashmir state, local news agencies said. They said 10 were killed when one bus skidded no a bend and plunged into gorge. Four died in a later crash not far away on the same national highway. Both buses were heading for the state's winter capital Jammu from the summer

# Analysts predict attack by N. Korea

WASHINGTON (Agencies) - North Korea is preparing a major military strike against South Korea and Japan, coordinated with action by Syria and Iran and with the support of Chioa, a conservative analyst said Friday.

The U.S. State Department a week ago denied reports that there had been unusual troop activity in North Korea, and officials said Friday that no-

thing had changed. Yossef Bodansky gave his analysis in a news conference and in a paper for the American Security Council Foundation, a private conservative think tank. He said Pyongyang, under the de facto rule of Kim Jong II, is planning "a dramatic hreakont from

ideological deadlock and a col-

lapsing economy."
"The timing of such an attack, if one occurs, will be coordinated with Syria and Iran in order to overwhelm the U.S. and the West," he said. He did not detail what the role

of Iran and Syria would be. Major coordinated military strikes were planned by North Korea and Iran on U.S. election day in November 1992, be said, but the North Koreans

"got cold feet." Mr. Bodansky, who directs a Republican congressional task force on terrorism, said North Korean leader Kim Il Sung, 81, is near death and has effectively passed power on to his son, who is 51.

U.S. officials describe the

region as one of the tensest in the world, but have expressed no alarm over recent develop-

"North Korea has long deployed the bulk of its forces in heavily fortified positions north of the demilitarised zone and south of a line running from Pyongyang, the capital, to Wonsan, a major port on the east coast," the department said last week.

"We know of no unusual troop movements or deploy-ment of forces near the DMZ which separate North and South Korea," it said. Mr. Bodansky, said

he has gathered inforntation from unnamed Mideast. Soviet, Chinese and Korean

# N. Jersey Democrats seek to have governor election overturned

NEWARK, New Jersey (R)— The New Jersey Democratic Party said Friday it will ask a judge to overturn the election for governor because of allegations that Republicans tried to suppress black votes, and the Justice Department said it was launching an investigation into the scandal.

According to the civil law-suit by the Democrats, the victory of Republican Chri-Whitman by less than 28,000 votes was in part due to 'a racially discriminatory strategy" of trying to discourage blacks from voting for Democrat Jim Florio, the in-

A hearing will be held Monday in connection with the civil

The scandal crupted Tuesday when Ed Rollins, chief campaign strategist for Mr. Whitmao, said \$500,000 in campaign funds had been funnelled through black ministers

to keep the hlack vote down. The ministers were allegedly urged to refrain from the usual practice of calling out the vote. Most black voters favour Democratic candidates.

Separately, the U.S. attor-ney for New Jersey announced the first criminal investigation into the matter. "We are opening an investigation into possible federal criminal violations in connec-

tion with these allegations,'

U.S. Attorney Michael Cher-

toff said at a news conference.

While noting that there have been public allegations of "vo-ter suppression," he stressed at a news conference that "the investigation is at a very preliminary stage."
"Chertoff said his probe

would focus only on whether there had been violations of federal criminal law and would not look into whether there were any ethical violations. The scandal has grown eveo though Mr. Rollins retracted his statement Wednesday, and

denied that any dirty tricks had been used in the campaign. On Friday, Ms. Whitman and representatives of hlack clergymen joined ranks to denounce reports that hlack preachers were hribed.

Ms. Whitman has adamantly

After a closed-door meeting, Ms. Whitman, a group of New Jersey hlack ministers and civil rights leader the Reverend Jesse Jackson held a joint news conference.

Rev. Jackson said, "we are not satisfied. That's why we are asking for a thorough and complete investigation."
But he said Ms. Whitman's

him, and that hlack ministers will not include her in a classaction lawsuit they intend to file against Mr. Rollins.

cooperation and her denial that she was involved in any of the alleged tactics satisfied

Ms. Whitman said, "I welcome any investigation. It is the only way to establish that we had nothing to do with what

Ms. Whitman put her reputation on the line Wednesday when she categorically denied that any effort had been made to reduce the hlack vote. "It did not happen," she said. But the Reverend Keith

at least five to six mioisters were approached. He says he was told of this by Edward Verner, head of the Black Ministers Council io New Jersey, who met couocil

Owens stuck by his story that

officials Thursday. "He (Verner) told me that he had been informed hy several clergy who had acknowledged in front of him that they had been approached by the GOP," Rev. Owens told Philadelphia radio station

KYW Friday. Rev. Verner contends that Rev. Owens misunderstood their conversation Thursday, hut Rev. Owens said there was no chance that he misheard what Rev. Verner said.

Webster Todd Jr., Ms. Whitman's brother and campaign director before Mr. Rollins, was quoted as saying in Friday's Newark Star-Ledger that the campaign worked to keep the vote light in some. parts of the state.

The New Jersey attorney general announced Friday that he was launching his own investigation. He oamed two former state attorneys general to conduct the independent re-

#### Lions cold, hungry In cash-strapped Russian zoo

money that its lions are threatened with death from cold and hunger, ITAR-TASS a news agency said Saturday. quoted a local newspaper saying the animals were benefit kept in a hastily-built enclosured made from wooden boards and slate, and the director of the private company was short money for heating and food. I local bank in the Urals city built donated cash when it found out about the Lions' pilight "Rule". about the Lions' plight. But this money is not enough the the whole winter and the news paper is appealing to natura vate husinessmen save the animals," TASS said,



# Bulgaria wins 2nd weightlifting gold

MELBOURNE (R) - Bulgarian Nikolai Poshalov's lastminute decision to compete in the World Weightlifting Cham-pionships paid off when he won a gold medal in the 59 kg

class Saturday.
Peshalov's wife Kudka is expecting their first child in the next few days and be agonised lover whether to stay with ber er travel to Melbourne.

"in the end I thought 1 would come and then maybe I could have a double celebration," said Peshalov after winping his second world title.
"If the baby is a girl 1 will call her Victoria after my vic-

tory tonight, but if it is a boy I will let my wife decide." Peshalov set a world record in the new 59 kg class when he lifted 167.5 kg in the clean and jerk, which gave him a combined total with the snatch of

305 kg, also a new world mark. Peshalov was a silver medalalov was a silver medallist at the 1992 Olympics in the old 60 kg class when he lost out to Turkey's Naim Suleymanogn, known as the "pocket Her-

Sulcymanoglu's namesake and fellow countryman Hafiz Suleymanoglu won the silver medal. Like Naim, he fled to Turkey, defecting from Azerbaijan in 1989 after winning the old 56 kg world title in the same year in Athens. His total lift was 10 kgs short

of Peshalov's mark. China's Tang Ningsheng won the bronze medal with a combined total of 292.5 kg the same as two other lifters, including Chun Byan-Kwan, Olympic champion in the old

56 kg class. The South Korean found it difficult moving up to the heavier weight and virtually

ruled himself out of the medals

when he finished seventh in the snatch competition, 7.5 kgs behind Peshalov.

Chun, South Korea's first Olympic weightlifting gold medallist, missed out on a medal because he weighed 0.05

of a kilo more than Ningsheng.
The International Weightlifting Federation, which also counts an Olympic gold as a world title, changed the weight divisions at the beginning of the year in an effort to clean up the sport as many previous world records were believed to be drug-aided.

Sunday's competition sees the "pocket Hercules," small in stature hut big in drawing power, compete in the new 64

It will be Bulgarian-born Suleymanogiu's first major competition since winning his second Olympic gold medal in

Barcelona last year. Earlier, Chinese teenager Liu Xiuhua crushed all opposition with just three lifts to pick up her second consecutive world title on the second day of the World Weightlifting Cham-

Xinhua, 18, won the new 50kg class with a combined total lift of 187.5 kg, a world record in the new division and a clear 10 kg over her nearest rival, compatriot Guan Hong.

The language student added the world title to the 48kg world title she won last year in Sofia, with her last lift of 110 kg in the clean and jerk competition which also set a new world mark in the new categ-

Xiuhua, from Guangdong, said she only lifted once in the snatch competition because she wanted her firend Guan Hong to win the gold for the snatch, although both lifters raised 77.5 kg, which also set a new world mark.

Hong won the snatch as she weighs less than Xiuhua. think I could have gone higher. But she (Hong) is a good friend of mine and I wanted ber to do well," Xiuhna told reporters after winning the gold medal.

Hong caused controversy on the first day of the competition when she failed to show up for the weigh-in for the 46 kg class, where she had been favourite

to pick up the gold. Xiuhua and Hong lived up to predictions that Chinese women are expected to dominate these championships, after winning 26 of the 27 medals on offer at the 1992 world titles.

Chru-Chun Kuo maintained Taiwan's strong start at the titles when she picked up the bronze with a combined lift of 170 kg after coming third in both the snatch and jerk cate-

Nan-Mei Chn and Shiu-Fen Yu won gold and silver respec-tively for Taiwan in the 46 kg class Friday, the first day of the 10-day championships.

It is the seventh year of the women's world titles and the first time they have been held together with the men's world

Meanwhile, IWF Secretary-General Tamas Ajan said Russia would remain competing at the world weightlifting titles despite four more Russian lifters failing doping tests. The four are in addition to

drug use last month. Russian Weightlifting Federation chief Victory Polyakov said in Moscow Friday that four lifters had been caught using anabolic steroids just after the National Cham-

three Russian lifters caught for

Aian said the test results would not force Russia's exit from the world titles, though under IWF rules a nation faces an automatic one-year ban or a \$50,000 fine if three of its lifters test positive within one calendar year.

"These are national tests. They are a national issue that do not concern the IWF,"

Ajan told reporters.
"It is our policy to encourage national federations to make tests at home and release of these results are showing that the Russians are cooperating with us (TWF)."

Tournament organisers said they were stunned by the news, but believed none of the four lifters were entered in the world titles. Russian officials were unavailable for comment.

The four, previously unpublicised cases follow positive dope tests on three other Russian weightlifters - Maxim Agapitov, Andrei Matveyev and Ramzan Musayev - that led to Russia being intially banned from the World championships.

That ban was waived after Russia paid the \$50,000 fine. Polyakov declined to name the four, but told a Russian sports journalist that the federation was considering bow to

Official sources said the best-known of the four were leor Kachurin, a European champion in 1992, and Russian champion Avetin Davtyan.

unish them.

The payment of the fine so strained the Russian Federation's finances that it was forced to cut its delegating to Melbourne from 16 to nine six lifters, two trainers and a

# Faisali tops league after 1st week of soccer championships

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The second week of soccer's first division championships begins today when Al Qadissich face Al Ahli at Amman's Al Petra Stadium, while Al Jazireh play Al Arabi and Al Baqaa take on Al Wihdat in Irhid.

The competition's first week witnessed some surprismg results by lowly teams. while titlebolders Al Faisali and former champions Al Wihdat scored impressive

Al Ramtha, who are preparing to represent Jurdan in the Arah Club's Cup beat Al Hussein 2-0 Friday. Badran Al Shaqran scored the first goal in the 29th minute while Khaled Aqquuri netted in the second goal in the 45th mi-

Al Faisali scored a convincing win when they played Al Arabi. Strikers Jamal Ahu Abed and Firas Khalaileb scored the first two goals in

Jiryes Taoros and Subhi Suleiman relentlessly attacked Al Arabi's goal. Tadros scored the third goal in the 68th minute to be followed 10 minutes later by the conclud-

ing goal by Khalaileh. Suleiman and Subhi Awad lost several scoring chances, however Al Faisali, who bave won the title in seven of the last 13 seasons were content with the result. The week's most surprising

result was newcomer Al Fuheis' 1-0 win over Al Ahli. Khader Mubarak scored his team's stunning goal in the final seconds to give Al Fuheis a good start in the

The other newcomer, Al Bagaa, scored a 1-0 win over Sahab whose star, Mohammad Al Ashhab, lost two definite scoring chances. Ahdul Qader Khasbram scored the match's only goal in the 7th minute.

competition.

In another match, Al Wihdat overcame Al Jazireb 2-0 as Jihad Abdul Mun'em

scored an early goal in the 3rd minute. His teammates Imad Al Zaghal, Ibrahim Sa'diyeh and Marwan Shamali attacked Al Jazireh's defences and Sbamali secured the secood goal in the 30th

Al Jazireh went on the offensive in the second half and lost two chances to

Al Qadissieh beat Yar-

mouk 1-0 on the gompetiin other matches this week
Al Yarmouk play labab and
Al Fuheis meet Al Hussein

According to the year's Jordan Soccer Federation (ISF) competition rules the winner of a match is awarded 3 points, a draw is awarded two points each and a goalless draw 1 point each.

### Standings after 1st week

| Team         | P | W | L | D | GF       | GA | Pts |   |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----------|----|-----|---|
| Al Faiseli   | 1 | 1 |   |   | 4        | _  | 3   | _ |
| Al Ramtha    | 1 | 1 | _ | _ | 2        | _  | 3   |   |
| Al Windat    | 1 | 1 |   | _ | 2        | _  | 3   |   |
| Al Fubeis    | 1 | 1 | _ | _ | 1        | _  | 3   |   |
| Al Qadissieh | 1 | 1 |   | _ | 1        | _  | 3   |   |
| Al Bagan     | 1 | 1 | _ |   | 1        | _  | 3   |   |
| Sahab        | 1 | _ | 1 | _ | _        | 1  | _   |   |
| Al Ahli      | 1 | _ | 1 | _ | _        | 1  | _   |   |
| Yarmouk      | 1 | _ | 1 | _ | <u> </u> | 1  | _   |   |
| Al Hussein   | 1 | _ | 1 | _ | _        | 2  | _   |   |
| Al Jazireh   | 1 | _ | 1 | _ | _        | 2  | _   |   |
| Al Arabi     | 1 | _ | 1 | _ | _        | 4  | _   |   |

# Graf advances, Sabatini eliminated in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Top-seed Steffi Graf easily advanced to the semifinals against South African Amanda Coetzer, but fourth-seed Gabriela Sabatini was derailed by unseeded Amy Frazier in the

Virginia Slims of Philadelphia. The number-one ranked Graf, this year's French Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion, quickly dispatched the eight seeded Coetzer 6-4

Sabatini, who has not won a tournament since May, 1992, squandered an early lead to let Frazier back into the match and a 2-6 6-3 7-5 victory.

ANTWERP, Belgiun (Agen-

cies) — Boris Becker will not

be defending his ATP title in

Frankfurt next week after a

sbock 7-6, 6-3 defeat to Swede

Magnus Gustafsson in the

European Community Cham-

pionship Saturday cost him a

Becker was bidding for the

for the last place in the eight-

player finals - Frenchman

Cedrie Pioline, who plays

world number one Pete Sam-

qualifying berth.

the running.

"She played very well and 1 felt like I was playing defensively," said Sabatini, trying to reestablish . her game under the tutelage of new coach Guil-lermo Vilas. "I wasn't doing much with the ball and she seemed to be more in control

of the match. "I have to be more aggressive when I'm ahead like that. I should've hit the ball harder and put more pressure on

ated seventh-seed Mary Pierce Thursday. Frazier next will

play second-seed Conchita

It was Frazier's second straight upset here. She defe-

Kimberly Po, who beat American compatriot Zina Garrison Jackson 6-2 6-4. Graf has never played Po, but doesn't figure to have much trouble as she fine tunes

Martinez of Spain, who defe-

ated ninth-seed Natalia

Zvereva of Belaurs, 6-4, 6-4.

Graf will play nuseeded

ber game for next weeks' Virginia Slims' Championships in New York's Madison Square Even if I'm not 100 per cent, wanted to have a tournament

before the (Virginia Slims)

Championships (next week in New York)," said Graf, play-

surgery.
"I wanted to get on the court and play some points. My foot's felt fine. I feel sharp

ing for the first time in six

weeks following minor foot

enough. Now I want to play well next week." As for beating Coetzer, Graf

said she wasn't really worried, even after Coetzer rallied from a 0-4 deficit in the first set to win the next three games. And playing early in the day was not a factor, either.

'She doesn't bave the kind of game to burt me," Graf said. "She doesn't have any aggressive shots,"

# New York Knicks remain unbeaten

INDIANAPOLIS (R) -Patick Ewing scored 19 points before leaving with a neck injury as the New York Knicks remained unbeaten with a 103-84 triumph over the Indiana

The Knicks improved to 5-0 for the first time since their championship season of 1969-

Ewing left the game early in the third quarter with a strained neck, suffered in the second quarter in a collision with Pacers centre Rik Smits.

foul on the incident. John Starks of New York was ejected in the fourth quarter after receiving his second technical foul. New York is one of three NBA teams with-

out a loss. Houston and Seattle are both 4-0. In Boston, Alonzo Mourning had 23 points to rally the

Charlotte Hornets to a 108-100

Q.1-As South, vulnerable, you

4987659 'PART 0842 49

Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

A.—Game in spades should have

A.—Game in spaces should have excellent play—it's just a matter of how to get there. If you play transfer bids, transfer into spaces, then bid game. If you don't, jump directly to four spaces. To bid three spaces first, then correct three no trump to four spaces, shows mild alam interests.

Q.2-As South, vulnerable, you

eJ. ♥AQ763 OAK2 eJ1063 Partner opens the bidding with three species. What action do you

take?

A.—At this vulnerability, partners hid promises a hand that will produce seven tricks with spades as trumps. You deliver three on top and have a spade filler to boot, so bid game. Four spades, though, not three no trump! At no trump partners, hand could be totally worthless.

Q.3—Neither valuerable, as South you hold: \$A782 VVoid \$1082 \$AKQ763

What do you bid now?

A.—There's a tendency to jump to three clubs to show your good sixcard sail. However, that could exsity result in missing a 4-4 spade fit. Bid one spade now, and reserve your jump in clubs for the next round, if the section permits.

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East

Page 10

; is \*

win over the Boston Celtics. Dell Curry hit two free throws with two seconds left to seal the win for Charlotte, which snapped a four-game

losing streak against Boston. In Washington, Tom Gugliotta had 22 points and nine rebounds as the Washington Bullets broke the game open in the third quarter and went on to defeat, the. Philadelphia 76ers, 105-93.

Philadelphia has lost four straight games since defeating the Bullets on Nov. 5. In Utah, Karl Malone had 28 points and 15 rebounds and

John Stockton had nine points and 19 assists as the Utah Jazz went on a 17-0 second quarter run on the way to a 109-89 rout of the Detroit Pistons.

The Jazz have won four of their five games while the Pistous have lost three straight after starting the season 2-0. in Orlando, Glen Rice

49852 ∇Q107 0J82 4A75

A.—There are those who insist

that when responding to an opening bid of one in a minor you must bid a four-card major, if you have one. Wa don't agree. With a 4-3-3-3 pat-tern and such a poor four-card suit.

we prefer a response of one no

Partner opens the hidding with one spade. What do you respond?

A.—Although you have only eight points in high cards, our choice would be two diamonds. When we

bid three diamonds at our next turn, partner should get the idea we have long diamonds and a sub-minimum two-over-one response.

Q.6-As South, vulnerable, you

AKJ6 VAKQ972 ♦Void \$1064

2 & Pass 7
What do you bid now?
A.—Siam depends only on whether partner has first- or second-round club control. You might need

room to find out via a cue-bidding sequence. Since your jump shift created a game force, for the moment you need do no more than raise to three spades, setting the trump suit.

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West

1 Page 2 Page
2 Page 7

—As South, valuerable, you

♥Q5 ♦AJ107653 AJ98

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West

1 \( \rightarrow \) Page 7

What do you respond?

**GOREN BRIDGE** 

ANSWERS TO WERKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

scored 30 points and Steve Smith added 20 points and 10 assists to lead the Miami Heat to a 115-100 road win over the Orlando Magic.

The Heat won their third straight game and avenged a 116-96 homecourt loss to the Magic on opening night. Nick Anderson bad 29

points and nine rebounds and Shauille O'Neal had 21 points and seven rebounds for the O'Neal made just eight of 17

shots from the field and had

At Minnesota, rookie Jamal Mashburn scored 20 of his 36 points in the first half as the Dallas Mavericks won a battle of winless teams with a 115-99

victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves. The Mavericks won for the first time in four games and sent Minnesota to its fifth loss without a victory this season. In Sacramento, Mitch Richmond hit a 21-foot jumper with

Sacramento Kings to a 93-91 triumph over the San Antonio David Robinson hit a pair of free throws with 25.2 seconds left to knot the score at 91-91

3.7 seconds left to rally the

for San Antonio. Lionel Simmons nailed a pair of free throws with less than a minute remaining to give the Kings a 91-89 lead.

Willie Anderson missed a three-pointer at the huzzer for

San Antonio.

In Los Angeles, Mahmond Abdul Ranf netted 25 points and Dikembe Mutombo set a career-high with 24 rebounds as the Denver Nuggets smashed the Los Angeles Lakers, 113-84.

Abdnl Rauf hit 12-of-18 shots from the field and made his only foul shot. He has made 76 straight from the line, the fourthlongest streak in league his-

The Lakers bave lost four opening win. At Golden State, John Wil-

liams had 18 points and Brad Daugherty scored 17 to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers tn a 102-93 win over the Golden State Warriors.

The Cavaliers improved to 2-3 overall the Warriors fell to

pras in the other semifical, and Latrell Sprewell had 20 points and Chriss Webber net-Croat Goran Ivanisevie. ted 15 points to pace the War-Pioline, who romped past Paris Open winner Ivanisevie In Portland, Clifford Robinin the quarterfinals, has to beat son scored 28 points to lead Portland to a 94-84 win over top seed Sampras to take the last berth. If he fails. I vanisevic

will play in the ATP finals. Atlanta as the Trailblazers continued their home dominance over the Hawks. Portland beat Atlanta at the Memorial Coliseum for the

eighth consecutive time, extending a streak that has lasted since the 1985-86 season. Clyde Drexler snapped an

from the left side

well this week." Gustafsson said the key to his success in the one hour 28 82-82 tie with a deep jumper minute match had been

Becker knocked out of E varying his returns to Becker. "You must not give him any chances. But I only really found the key to his serve in the second, set.

"It is a shame there is no German in the final," joked Gustafsson who last week beat world number two Jim Courier in the Paris Open. "I am just playing very well

last spot in the Jucrative season-ending ATP finals, but indoors at the moment. Somehis defeat at the hands of the times you feel a little nervous giant-killing Swede in Saturnad you don't want to go out, dy's semifinals put him ont of Two players are still battling

"But now 1 am feeling good" Gustafsson said he would rather play his friend Pioline in the final Sunday but that he would rather the Frenchman qualified for Frankfurt.

"I think I could beat Cedric. Pete is playing so fast at the moment and he is a great, great players. But Cedri cdeserves to qualify for Frankfurt. He has been playing so

steadily this year. Ivanisevie collapsed to a Gustafsson, who had lost his tame 7-6, 6-0 defeat at the two previous encounters with hands of Pioline in the quarter-Becker, beat second seed Michael Stich of Germany in finals Friday.

the quarterfinals and said The fifth-seed held a setpoint in the tie break but failed simply: "I've been playing very to capitalise and the Frenchman seized his chance at 9-7 after two unforced errors by his opponent.

**ATP** finals tournament. "Two errors, that was it," fourth-seed Pioline said. "I the first set," the American was surprised it was so easy in Sampras feels tired ahead of the ATP finals in Frankfurt. the second set. His concentration seemed to leave him."

Ivanisevic, all power

through the first set, suddenly lost heart and the end came with embarrassing speed. Sampras booked his semifinal slot bere with a 7-6, 6-3

victory oer Nicklas Kulti of Sweden. Sampras started slowly

mind rest a while now." The defeat of second-seed

Stich was not a total surpri He had struggled in his second round match late Thursday against another Swede Henrik Holm, trailing 4-1 in the first against Kulti Friday. "I took set before moving up a few him a little bit for granted in gears to win 7-6, 6-1.

'I'm a bit fragile now," he

said. "I've been in Europe a

long time, I've got to let my

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# Qadhafi: Sanctions pretext for colonising Arab states

CAIRO (Agencies) — "Oil makes the West's mouth water," Muammar Qadhafi said in dismissing new international sanctions on Libya as just another Western pretext to colonise the Arabs.

A century and a half of Arab experience with Europe, Col-onel Qadhafi said, prove that the bombing of an American airliner that killed 270 people is just another bad excuse against Libya."

"It is weak and fabricated," he said Friday night. "They had to come up with some-

thing."
The U.N. Security Council voted 11-0 Thursday night to widen existing air, arms and diplomatic sanctions to include a freeze on Libya's overseas assets and a ban on sale of some oil equipment. China, which has a Security Council veto, Pakistan, Djibouti and Morocco abstained

The new punishments take effect on Dec. 1 unless Libya surrenders two suspects in the 1988 destruction of Pan Am 103 for trial in the United States or Britain.

Libya says it has advised the suspects to accept trial in Scotland but has no power to overrule their refusal.

In London, a correspondent for the official Libyan agency JANA wrote that Scottish attorney Alistair Duff said the two suspects would fight in Libyan court any effort by the government to force them to Scotland. He said he thought

they would win.
Mr. Duff is among 12 members of a defence team for the pair, Abdul Baset Ali Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah, both alleged to be agents of the

Libyan government.
The Scottish lawyer said new sanctions "will not change any-

BELJING (Agencies) — A Chinese MD-82 airliner

crashed while landing in the far

western city of Urumqi Satur-

day and according to local offi-

cials there were casualties, the

official Xinhua news agency

Teh China Northern Air-

lines aircraft, on a flight from

the northeastern city of

Shenyang to the Xiojiang pro-

vincial capital of Urumqi via

Beijing, crashed at 14:56 local

time (0656 GMT), the news

some casualties, and the in-

jured have been rushed to hos-

pitals," the agency said, without giving further details.

now heing investigated," Xinhua siad at the end of its

"The cause of the accident is

An official at northern air-

lines' headquarters in Sheny-

ang aid the plane was not full

but added that he had no in-

formation on how many people

were aboard. An MD-82 can

carryn 72 passengers, according to Jane's All the World's

U.N. cannot confirm shooting

KUWAIT (AP) - United Nations observers

patrolling the disputed Kuwait-Iraq border

said Saturday they could not confirm a border

shooting incident reported by the emirate

earlier in the week. Abdul Latif Kahbaj, spokesman for the U.N. Kuwait-Iraq Obser-

ver Mission, said investigations by the world

body's officers could not substantiate the

"alleged incident." Kuwait claimed that Iraqis

opened fire on a Kuwaiti patrol posted at Al Mezarei east of the Abdali border post Wednesday, hut Iraq denied that any shooting

incident had taken place and accused Kuwait of fabricating it. Kuwait's Interior Ministry

said its forces returned fire. No casualties

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — Technical

talks between Iraq and the United Nations on

disarmament issues will begin Monday at

U.N. headquarters in New York, a U.N.

spokesman said Friday. An Iraqi team led by General Amer Rachid, director of Baghdad's Military Industrialisation Organisation, is due

at the discussions which could last a week,

said Tim Trevan, the spokesman for the U.N.

commission charged with disarming Iraq. According to diplomatic sources, Baghdad

wants to discuss with the U.N. disarmament

commission the remaining issues related to eliminating its weapons of mass destruction

and to long-term U.N. monitoring of Iraqi

disarmament, prior to a visit to New York by

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz on

CAIRO (R) — Sudanese police arrested

about 300 students during protests in Khar-

toum and detained former Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi for questioning, Arab news-

papers said Saturday. Students at Khartoum University protested this week after a group

supporting the Islamic government won stu-

dent elections they said were rigged.

300 students held in Sudan

Iraqi team due in New York

'Local officials reported

agency said.

brief report.

Aircraft.

were reported.

thing ... concerning their appearance before courts in the U.S. or Scotland," JANA

In a report from Libya moni-tored in Cairo, JANA said Col. Qadhafi commented on his confrontation with the United Nations in a meeting with "the revolutionary force in Zlitan," a seaside town 145 kilometres east of Tripoli.

"Oil makes the West's mouth water," be said. "it is the European greed for pet-roleum that makes them think of invading the places where

Libya's economy depends on oil to the tune of \$9 billion a vear. Its European oil customers reportedly have blocked U.S. and British attempts to hit this source of income hy banning oil sales.

Col. Qadhafi said France did not have the Lockerbie case in 1830 when it occupied Algeria, nor Britain when it took control of Egypt in the 1880s, nor Italy when Libya was invaded in 1911, nor the United States when it bombed Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986. Former President Ronald Reagan ordered the U.S. attack to punish Libya for the bombing of a West Berlin nightclub that killed a U.S. army sergeant and a Turkish woman.

"Lockerbie is an excuse. After Libya it will be Syria to crush its military and economie power," Col. Qadhafi said.

"They want to destroy Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, Lihya and Syria so that there will be nobody to face up to them and to gather up the wealth of the Arab nations.' Libya has decided to close its

land borders with Egypt and Tunisia for three days, starting from midnight (2200 GMT)

Xinhua called the incident

"an accident while landing." It

said an unspecified number on

board were injured and taken

to hospitals, but did not men-

Saturday, Egyptian officials said in Cairo.

The officials said they were informed of the decision by the Lihyan authorities.

The borders were being closed in protest at the new U.N. sanctions against Libya. Meanwhile travellers from Libya arriving in Salum, near the border, said thousands of Libyans had started gathering on the country's borders, not-ably at Musaid, to demonstrate against the sanctions.

The demonstrators chanted slogans denouncing "U.S. imperialism" and "Western col-

Iraq's government newspaper said Saturday the tightening of sanctions against Libya was part of the "political hypocing" of Western persons.

risy" of Western powers.

Al Jumhouriyah described as unjustified and unfair new economic measures the Security Council ordered against

Lihya.
The latest Security Council resolution agaisnt Libya ... exposes the international political hypocrisy," it said.

The great powers in the Security Council ... have foresaken all international principles and turned into commercial companies," it added. Al Jumhonriyah said the

council acted under pressure from Washington. Iraq is still under sweeping U.N. sanctions imposed in re-sponse to its 1990 invasion of

Al Jumhouriyah said the council wanted to see its resolutions against Iraq and Lihya fully implemented but paid no attention to those it issned against Israel.

'Has the world seen political hypocrisy greater than that we see today?" it added.

### 146 airliner crashed on its second attempt at landing in

tion any fatalities. The alrline official said the crew were five. China Northern is one of China's main state-owned carriers. On Friday one of its airliners was hijaeked to Taiwan (see page 8). The airplane returned home with its passengers and crew, but

the two hijackers remained

under arrest hy Taiwan author-

The crash in Urumqi follows a string of air accidents over the past two years which have raised concern over safety standards in China's rapidlyexpanding aviation sector.

Saturday's crash is the third reported in China this year. All have taken place during land-

Late last month, two people were killed and 13 injured when another MD-82 passenger plane veered off the runway while landing at the coastal city of Fuzhou.

In July, a British Aerospace

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Yinchuan in the western province of Ningxia, killing 55 people.

Attempts to telephone Xin-jiang officials and Urumqi airport were unsuccessful, and a spokesman at the long-distance telephone booking office in Beijing said the lines were under repair and were unlikely

to be fully operational soon. Fnelled by China's fastgrowing economy, the country's aviation sector has expanded quickly over the past year as airlines attempt to keep up with surging passenger de-

Passenger traffic grew by 33 per cent last year and is expected to rise by at least 20 per cent this year, putting sharp strains on overburdened airports and air traffic control

Last year was one of the worst reported in China's aviation history, with a series of accidents over a four-month period in late 1992 killing at least 276 passengers, including many foreign tourists.

Sudanese sources described the protests as the

biggest student unrest for two years. The

London-based Al Hayat newspaper quoted

official sources as saying about 300 students

were arrested during protests on Wednesday

but most of them were released on Friday. Al

Sharq Al Awsat, also published in London,

said 350 were arrested. Al Hayat also said Mr.

Mahdi, prime minister in Sudan's democratic

period from 1986 to 1989, was questioned for

eight hours after meeting the U.S. ambassa-

MOSCOW (AFP) - Tajikistan authorities

were to extradite to Afghanistan Saturday 108

Afghan soldiers who were seeking asylum

from the Central Asian country, Tajik Fore-

ign Ministry spokesman Azafar Saidov said. Mr. Saidov, quoted by Interfax, said buses

carrying the soldiers travelled Saturday to the

border town of Termez in neighbouring Uzbe-

kistan where they were to be handed over to

Afghan military officials. Tajik officials late

Thursday extradited Afghan General Begi

who crossed into Tajikistan waving a white

flag on Nov. 6 along with the soldiers who

were fleeing fighting among rival clans. The

extradition of the servicemen was negotiated

during a telephone conversation Friday even-

ing between Tajik Foreign Minister Rashid

Alimov and his Afghan counterpart Hedayat

CAIRO (AP) - Five members of a family

were killed Saturday and seven people were

injured in an explosion of an "unidentified

object" the father was using to repair his

bicycle, police said. The hlast occurred out-

side the village house near Fayoum, 80

kilometres south of Cairo, of Ramadan Ibra-

him Metwali, who police said had owned the

device that exploded for some time. A secur-

ity officer speaking anonymously under reg-

ulations said explosives experts were trying to

identify the object that killed Metwali, two

sons and two other relatives.

Amin Arsala, Mr. Saidov said.

5 killed in Fayoum blast

Tajiks extradite 108 Afghans

dor to Sudan.

Mir Murtaza Bhutto, brother of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, waves to supporters as he comes to court for a hearing Saturday-Mr. Bhutto is wanted on a string of charges of terrorism and abetment in murders while he was leader of the

Al Zulfikar Organisation (AZO). Mr. Bhutto said his sister's government is gripped by political fear and is over-reacting to his return home (AFP photo)

# Heavy fighting rages east of Afghan capital

TAGOB, Afghanistan (R) — Afghan President Burbanuddin Rabbani asked for a ceasefire Saturday after forces of Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar recaptured a town that has changed bands several times in two weeks of battles. Mr. Hekmatyar's radical Hezb-e-Islami troops advanced

beyond the town of Tagob, about 60 kilometres northeast of Kahul, pushing he battlef-ront further north into territory held by Mr. Pable-1 tory held by Mr. Rabbani's Jamiate-Islami guerrillas.
"We captured Tagoh town
three days ago," Hezb-e-Islami
commander Zardad said in an

interview at his position near the frontline. "Our objective now is to

secure all of the Tagob valley. To do this we must take the mountaintops along the sides of the valley. Jamiat-e-Islami jets under

the command of ex-Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud, a veteran guerrilla leader of the 14-year Afghan civil war and Mr. Hekmatyar's arch-enemy, were bombing nearby peaks. Several jets launched five bombing raids on Hezb-e-Islami positions in one

Hezb-e-Islami forces retaliated with heavy artillery and mortar fire on Jamiat-c-Islami positions north of Tagob.

Mr. Zardad estimated at least 250 civilians have been killed or injured since the

bloody battle for control of the valley erupted with a Hezb-e-Islami assault no Nov. 1. Tagob fell to Hezb last week, only to be retaken by Jamiat-e-

Islami a few days later. The number of casualties among the combatants was not known but was believed to be high after some of the fiercest battles in 18 months of clashes between Mr. Hekmatyar and Mr. Masoud for ultimate power in Kahul.

We have sent a peace delegation.... but it was rejected hy Hezb-e-Islami," presiden-tial spokesman Abdul Aziz Morad said in an interview in Kahul.

"We want a ceasefire now," Mr. Morad said, "Our conditions are that Hezb-e-Islami should vacate the area around Naghlu dam at the southern end of the valley."

Most residents of the valley famed for its pomegranates orchards have fled. "We are having a time like

hell," one villager said. "We have lost our houses, property and animals. We have lost our safety," said another in a small settlement just south of the frontline. "We don't want this imposed war any

more. We want peace." Officials and hospitals say more than 10,000 civilians have been killed in previous blistering but inconclusive rounds of fighting between the two parties in and around Kabul since the guerrillas took power from the former communist govern-ment in April 1992.

Hezb-e-Islami commander Kashmir Khan said his forces were still holding two foreign reporters, New Zealander Terence White of Agence France Presse and John Jennings of the Associated Press, who were arrested while visiting the frontline on Monday with Jamiat-e-Islami officials. "I want to release them as

soon as possible in a public ceremony, but as you can see for yourself I am very busy at present fighting against Mr. Masond's forces," Mr. Khan said by radio from the battlefront where be is commanding the Hezb-e-Islami assault. He declined to say where the

two reporters were being held or hy which commander. Mr. Masond stepped down

last June as part of a compromise deal under which Mr. Rabbani retained the post of president while Mr. Hekmatyar became prime minister. He is believed to remain the power behind the scenes and Mr. Rabbani's main source of support. In the past few weeks, both

Mr. Masoud and Mr. Hekmatyar have moved large numbers of tanks as well as beavy artillery into the area amid signs the two rivals were preparing for a fresh showdown in their 18-month-old struggle for supremacy in Afghanistan.

# Yemeni cabinet mediates in crisis

SANAA (R) - Yemen's coalition government, caught in the country's worst crisis in three years of unity, is mediating in a growing row between the pres-

ident and his deputy.
The official Al Thawra newspaper said Saturday the cabinet formed a committee headed by Prime Minister Haider Abu Baker Al Attas to ensure "proper conditions and atmosphere for the resumption of dialogue between members of the coalition.

The committee has asked ninisters to curh army activities, speed up investigations into political killings, and ban inflammatory speeches which could threaten reconciliation.

Yemen's two main political parties, the General People's Congress (GPC) of President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) of Vice-President Ali Salem Al Bacedh have been at odds since July over political and economic reforms The crisis is the worst since

Yemen united in 1990. The two parties had shared power until eneral elections in April when the Islamist Party, Islah, won enough seats to make it the third partner in the coalition. The YSP, based in former South Yemen, says Mr. Saleh's

party is trying to run every-

thing its own way, turning uni-

fication into annexation. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which is trying to mediate, has warned politicians the quarrel could turn violent and undo the work of unification.

A cabinet statement said the mediation committee "will follow up the developments of the current political crisis and work towards the elimination of all its: signs and effects." It asked Defence Minister Haitham Qassem Taher to dismantle "newly introduced posts and checkpoints, return army units with their arms to

pre-crisis positions and stop new reinforcements. The former North and South Yemen armies have yet to merge and there have been persistent rumours of army movements in recent weeks.

The armed forces newspaper September 26 said on Friday reports of troop movements in various parts of Yemen were all 'baseless and fabricated"

#### Top U.S. cardinal charged with sexual abuse

CHICAGO (AFP) -- One of

the most senior Roman Catho-lic leaders in the United States was accused of sexually abuswas accused of sexually abusing a former seminary student
in a \$10-million lawsuit. Cardinal Joseph Bernardin denied
the charges that he sodomised
Steven Cook, 34, sometime
between 1975 and 1977 when cook was a student at a Cincinnati, Ohio, seminary where Card. Bernardin was an archbishop. "I'm flabbergasted. I said, "how could this be?" said the 63vear-old cardinal during a press conference. "I was more saddened than angry. I really was saddened." The Chicago cardinal is one of the highest ranking U.S. Catholic clerics to be accused of sexual abuse. He beads 2,3 million Catholics in the second biggest U.S. archdiocese. Mr. Cook said he had waited 15 years to make the accusations because the incidents were only now coming back to him. Police in Cincinnati, where the lawsuit was filed, said Mr. Cook had never come to them with the allegations. Mr. Cook said be not only wanted hefty financial compensation, but insisted the cardinal be removed from his job. Card. Bernardin said that with the new charges, three accusations have been made against him, all of them in the past year. He called all three totally false. One was a woman who accused him of participating in a satanic ritual 35 or 36 s years ago and the other from a young man who accused him and others of participating in an orgy, Card, Bernardin said.

#### **Head of Catholic** monastery quits over sex claim

CRANHAM, England (R) — A Benedictine monk has resigned as head of a monastery in southern England after a young man filed a complaint of sexual misconduct against him, the religious community said Friday. Reverend Mark Hargreaves submitted his resignagreaves submitted his thorities tion to the church authorities in Rome last week following a complaint by a 22-year-old 113e:ru! would-be monk who was visiting the religious order at Prinknash Abbey in the County of --Gloucestershire. The abbey's prior said in a statement that Hargreaves left the monastery to avoid disrupting the community's life and was already undergoing treatment at a clerat Prinknash are praying for his welfare, as well as for God's forgiveness of their former abbot," said Prior Fabian Binyon. "For any monk, but particularly for one as senior as an abbot, to break the church's requirement of chastity, or the Benedictine tradition of hosptality, is to be very seriously regretted." The prior said the young man, who has not been named, had been offered counselling by another Catholic agency.

#### Michael Jackson hooked on painkillers

abruptly cancelled ins were tour Friday, saying he was addicted to pankilling drugs. In an audiotape released by his publicist Jackson said it was publicist Jackson said it was publicist Jackson sand impossible for him to continue performing under his addiction performing under his addiction he performing under his accusations he and the stress of accusations he sexually molested a young boy in California, in the audiotape, possibly the longest statement to the press ever made by the reticent entertainer, Jackson spoke of his growing de pendency on pain knists and the charges made against him the charges made against him.
"It is time for me to acknow him to the charges pigging the charges are the charges and the charges are the charges and the charges are pendency on pain killers and ledge my need for treatment in the to pe order to regain my health," Jackson said. He described charges of sexual molestation made by a 14-year-old boy, who claimed Jackson engaged in masturbation and oral sex with him, as "an extortion attempt." Jackson's representatives in California have said the boy's father had tried to get more than \$1 million from the Jackson camp for a film treatment and when the deal went sour the boy and the father sued the star, alleging sexual molestation. Jackson 5 longtime friend and supporter, Elizabeth Taylor, rashed to his aid Thursday in Mexico City and arranged for him to go to aclinic in Gstaad, Switzerland. Jackson flow to London Priday night and was believed to be waiting for a plane to Gstaad, where Taylor has a home.

# linton offers incentives to Rabin

dent Bill Clinton Friday pledged to sell Israel advanced U.S. warplanes and previously restricted computer technology to encourage the Israelis to cooperate further in the Middle East peace process.

He also promised the United States would not cut its annual \$3 billion in assistance to America's top ally io the Middle East and would consult with Congress on other ways that Israel could "defray the cost of peace."
Mr. Clinton confirmed the

moves at a news conference with visiting Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that was overshadowed by a development that could undermine the historic Israel Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace accord signed at the White House two months ago. The Israeli army said it had

determined that five members of the Fatch faction of Yasser Arafat's PLO were responsible for the Sept. 29 killing of a Jewish settler on the Israelioccupied West Bank.

Rabin publicly called on Arafat to condemn the attack. Mr. Clinton said Mr. Arafat was "duty-bound at a minimum" to do so under terms of the peace accord.

"I think we all recognise that be (Arafat) may not have total control over everyone who acts in the name of Fatch, but he is now bound by... the clear terms of the agreement to condemn it," Mr. Clinton said. Mr. Rabin added: "The PLO must condemn vigorously, openly and immediately any

action that is in flagrant violation of the commitment to renounce terrorism." As an incentive to make Israelis more willing to deal with Syria, Mr. Clinton said Washington would "maintain

our present levels of assistance" and renewed "America's nnshakable pledge to maintain and enhance Israeli's qualitative security edge." Mr. Clinton said he was

working on an agreement to "make available a number of planes to the Israelis.'

He declined to give details pending meetings Mr. Rabin is having Monday with Defence Secretary Les Aspin. But a strong possibility was that Washington would offer the next generation of U.S. combat aircraft, the F-15E.

Mr. Rabin said Mr. Clinton told him the United States would also lift barriers that would allow the Jewish state to import more U.S. computer and electronic technology and would "beef up our capacity to defend ourselves against missiles." Some of the most sophisti-

cated U.S. hardware had heen banned for export to Israel because it has both civilian and military applications, particularly for use in ballistie mis-

Israel is also looking for ways to meet the roughly \$250 million in costs for roads and military bases required for redeploying Israeli troops from Gaza and Jericho as part of the

peace accord with the PLO.

To help Israel "defray the cost of peace," Mr. Clinton said he

of the \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees extended last year for absorbing Russian Jews to pay for redeployment projects in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Mr. Rabin was heartened by

on allowing Israel to use some

the news he received on the second day of a 10-day visit to North America.

"I, return home stronger in many aspects, more confident in our ability to reach peace and reassured that thousands of miles away from Israel. We have a true friend in the White House that we can rely on," he Mr. Clinton said it is essen-

tial that Israel and Syria make peace in order to get a compre-hensive Middle East settlement but declined to discuss ways to advance that process. Syria has threatened to boycott a 12th round of U.S.brokered Middle East talks, saying no real progress has been made in 11 rounds over the past two years in Washing-

#### 2 New York blast suspects reportedly try suicide NEW YORK (Agencies) tion of anonymity. Eight to 10 officers, alerted case, is being tried separately

Two defendants in the World Trade Centre bombing case tried to commit suicide in their Manhattan prisoo cells, according to the New York

Neither man, Ahmad Ajaj and Bilal Al Kaisi, was seriously injured Thursday, the daily reported in Saturday's edi-

Both men had cut themselves with razors, and Mr. Kaisi tried to hang himself with a torn bed sheet, the Times said, citing defence lawyers. It was not clear whether the men had coordinated their acts. according to the reports.

A spokeswoman at the pretrial detention centre where they are being held said the suicide attempts and subsequent commotion led to a disruption by other immates in the maximum-security wing which was quieted by corrections officers, the Times said. The official spoke on condi-

hy a hombing defendant in a cell neighbouring Mr. Kaisi's, struggled to remove the razor from Mr. Kaisi's hand, Roheri L. Ellis, Mr. Kaisi's lawyer.

told the Times. Mr. Kaisi appeared to have only superficial wounds on his arms. Mr. Ellis told the times. Mr. Ajaj and Mr. Kaisi staged hunger strikes earlier this week.

Mr. Ellis told the Times that his client had tried to hang himself after cutting bimself with the razor, but it was not clear if Mr. Kaisi was hanging from the sheet when his cell was

Other defence attorneys said they were advised but would speak only on condition of anonymity because of a court order against discussing the bombing cases outside court.
Mr. Kaisi, one of five defendants in the world trade centre from the four others because the evidence against them ap-plies only marginally to Mr. Kaisi The defence lawyers told the

Times that frustrations and despair were growing among many of the 19 defendants charged in two cases, the Feb. 26 bombing of the World Trade Centre and a plot to bomb other New York City landmarks. Mr. Kaisi and other prison-

ers are confined alone to cells for 23 hours a day, Mr. Ellis said. Last Wednesday, Mr. Ajaj's lawyer, Austin V. Cam-priello, told Judge Kevin T. Duffy of Mr. Ajaj's complaints, many about prison food.

Lawyers were not notified of the suicide attempts until Friday afternoon, nearly 24 hours after they happened, the Times said.

There was no indication that

this week's events at the Federal metropolitan Correctional centre would disrupt the trial of four defendants, now under way in federal court in Man-

They are charged with the bombing in the heart of New York's financial district which killed six people and wonnded about 1,000. Mr. Campriello said he and

other lawyers were turned away at the prison by guards when they attempted to see their clients housed on the prison's high-security, ninthfloor south wing. Family members of suspects

in the hombing case, and that of the 15 other defendents charged in the alleged plot to bomb the United Nations and other New York targets have also been denied visits. Most of the defendants have been on a hunger strike since

Monday in protest against the prison conditions. Mr. Campriello said.



Lanctions

LOS ANGELES (R) — Pop

LOS ANGELES (%) superstar Michael Jackson abruptly cancelled his world abruptly cancelled his world